

GAZETTEER OF INDIA
RAJASTHAN
NAGOUR

RAJASTHAN DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



सत्यमेव जयते

NAG AUR

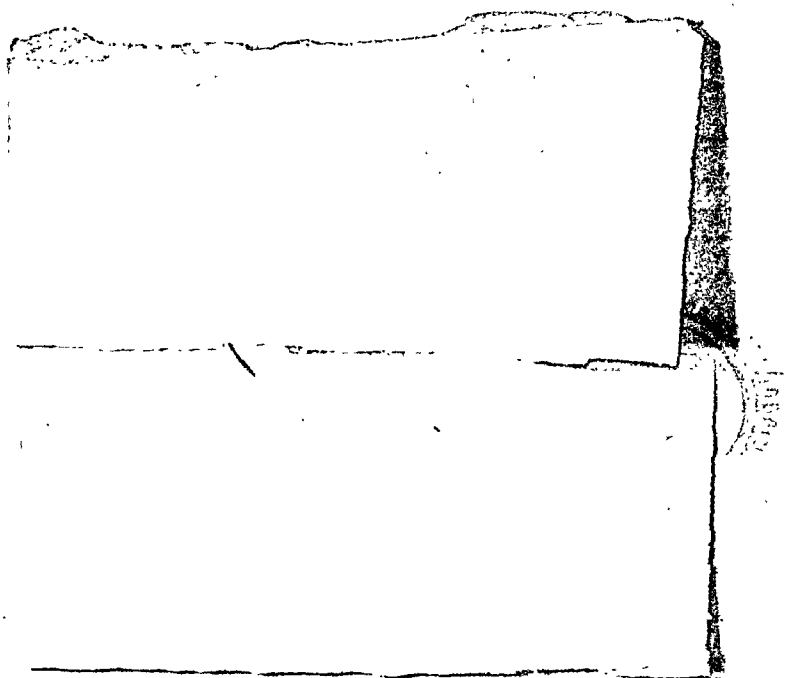
By

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JAIPUR.

Obtainable from :

- (1) DIRECTORATE, DISTRICT GAZETTEERS
RAJASTHAN, JAIPUR (INDIA)
- (2) PUBLICATION BRANCH,
GOVERNMENT CENTRAL PRESS,
JAIPUR (INDIA)
- (3) AUTHORISED AGENTS,
LIST OBTAINABLE FROM THE
DIRECTOR, DISTRICT GAZETTEERS, RAJASTHAN



Printed at :
MAHAVIR PRINTING PRESS,
M. I. Road, JAIPUR (Rajasthan).

P R E F A C E

The gazetteer of Nagaur is the sixteenth in the series of district gazetteers which are being brought out by the Government of Rajasthan in collaboration with the Central Gazetteers Unit of the Government of India.

The present district of Nagaur was carved out of the erstwhile princely State of Jodhpur when it merged with such other principalities to form Rajasthan. The old history of the district is, therefore, the history of the former Jodhpur State but an effort has been made here to extricate the local history of the area from the general annals of Marwar to give it separate frame work but at the same time maintaining a harmony with the main theme necessitated by the fact that most of the area comprising the present district was in the possession of either the collateral branches of the ruling dynasty of Marwar or their off-shoots. Such ramifications proved both a source of strength and weakness to the Rathor kingdom, for, blood ties bound them together but circumstances resulting in internecine feuds tore them asunder. If examples of chivalry and sacrifice abound, instances of parricides are also not uncommon.

The district can claim many places of antiquity as is known from the inscriptional evidence found at Daulatpura, Kinsariya, Mangalana and elsewhere in the area. Nagaur, Didwana, Merta and many other places in the district were important places. The district produced a number of saints and poets, poetess Mirabai being the most prominent among them. In recent past also, the district made rapid strides in cultural field.

The last gazetteer of this area was written in 1908-09. The gazetteers are now being revised/written in accordance with the general pattern laid down by the Government of India. In case of the districts in Rajasthan, the task is more of writing the gazetteers afresh than revising them, because in most cases, no gazetteers at all, had been written while in a few others, those written are very sketchy and cover very little ground, besides the fact that much of what has been written, has become obsolete. The current series of gazetteers in Rajasthan give an eloquent commentary on how political, social and economic reforms were introduced after Independence and to what effect. As such these gazetteers are not only geographical lexicons or statistical tables, but reflect changes almost amounting to a metamorphosis in certain fields of the district life.

The material available in old gazetteers has been freely used particularly in chapters dealing with subjects like topography, rivers, geology etc. The bulk of the information had, however, to be collected from a number of publications, both official and non-official, and from other sources. The data included in the volume, unless specifically mentioned in the text otherwise, pertain to the period ending 1969-70. The climatological summary given in this gazetteer has been prepared by the Meteorological Department, Government of India.

I am greatly indebted to the various departments of the State and Central Governments, semi-Government institutions and individuals who have helped by extending their co-operation and making necessary material available. I wish to place on record my grateful thanks to Dr. P. N. Chopra, M.A. Ph. D., Editor, Central Gazetteers Unit, Ministry of Education and Social Welfare, Government of India, New Delhi, for thorough scrutiny of draft chapters and for making valuable suggestions for improving the quality of the volume. It would not be out of place to mention that the expenditure incurred on the compilation and printing of the District Gazetteers is being financed by the Government of India.

I am extremely grateful to Shri Hari Deo Joshi, the Chief Minister, Shri Chandanmal Baid, the Planning Minister and Shri Jujhar Singh, the Minister of State for Planning, who evinced a keen interest in the work throughout. I also take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to Shri S.L. Khurana, the Chief Secretary to the Government of Rajasthan, and Shri D. N. Prasad, Special Secretary (Planning), who amidst their numerous pre-occupations, found time to give their valuable advice to improve the quality of the publication.

The officers and the staff of this department have considerably helped me in compilation and preparing this volume. To them I owe much and without their team work the publication would not have come out in time.

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GAZETTEER OF NAGOUR DISTRICT

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CONVERSION TABLE

Length

- 1 inch=2.54 centimetres
- 1 foot=30.48 centimetres
- 1 yard=91.44 centimetres
- 1 mile=1.61 kilometres

Area

- 1 square foot=0.093 square metre
- 1 square yard=0.836 square metre
- 1 square mile=2.59 square kilometres
- 1 acre=0.405 hectare

Volume

- 1 cubic foot=0.028 cubic metre

Capacity

- 1 gallon (Imperial)=4.55 litres
- 1 seer (80 tola)=0.937 litre

Weight

- 1 tola=11.66 grams
- 1 chhatank=58.32 grams
- 1 seer=933.10 grams
- 1 maund=37.32 kilograms
- 1 seer (24 tolas)=279.93 grams
- 1 ounce=28.35 grams
- 1 pound=453.59 grams
- 1 ton=1,016.05 kilograms

Temperature

- $t^{\circ}\text{ Fahrenheit} = 9/5 (T^{\circ}\text{ centigrade}) + 32$

Metric Weights & Measures

Length

- 10 millimetres=1 centimetre
- 100 centimetres=1 metre
- 1,000 metres=1 kilometre

Area

100 square millimetres=1 square centimetre

10,000 square centimetres=1 square metre or centiare

100 square metres=1 are

100 ares=1 hectare

100 hectares or 1,000,000 square metres=1 sq. kilometre

Volume

1,000,000 cubic centimetres=1 cubic metre

Capacity

1,000 millilitres=1 litre

1,000 litres=1 kilolitre

Weight

1,000 milligrams=1 gram

1,000 grams=1 kilogram

100 kilograms=1 quintal

1,000 kilograms=1 tonne

200 milligrams=1 carat

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CHAPTER I

GENERAL

INTRODUCTORY

Origin of the name

The district takes its name from its principal town Nagaur, which is also its headquarters. The origin of the name is uncertain, but an old reference¹ is available which shows that this place was formerly known as Nagapura. It was one of the chief towns of Marwar which included the regions of Harsa and Shakambhari.

Location

The district is located² between latitude $26^{\circ} 25'$ and $27^{\circ} 40'$ N and longitude $73^{\circ} 10'$ and $75^{\circ} 15'$ E. The maximum length of the district from north to south is about 146 km. and its maximum breadth from east to west about 229 km. Being situated in the centre of Rajasthan, it shares its border with several other districts of the State. On the north it is bounded by Bikaner and Churu districts, on the east by Sikar and Jaipur, on the south by Ajmer and Pali and on the west by Jodhpur. The district is irregular in shape. Four of its eight tahsils, i.e. Nagaur, Jayal, Ladnun and Didwana, lie in the upper half of the north-west segment while the remaining four (Merta, Degana, Parvatsar and Nawa) occupy the lower half or its south-east portion. Nagaur tahsil is situated in the western-most fringe of the district whereas its eastern-most portion is enclaved by Nawa; and northern and southern spurs are represented by Ladnun and

1. *Rajasthan Through the Ages*, Vol. I, edited by Dr. Dasharatha Sharma and published by Rajasthan State Archives, Bikaner (1966), p. 17. Tod also mentions that Rathors conquered Nagor (Nagaur) or Nagadurg (the serpent's castle) from the Mohils, who held fourteen hundred and forty villages so late as the fifteenth century. *Annals and Antiquities of Rajasthan*, Vol. III, O.U.P. (1920), p. 1449, fn. 4. *The Imperial Gazetteer of India* (1908), Vol. XVIII, mentions that the town is said to have taken its name from its traditional founders, the Naga Rajputs.

2. Source : Office of the Director, Survey of India, Western Circle, Jaipur.

Merta tahsils respectively. The district also has a sub-tahsil named Makrana, which is a part of Parvatsar tahsil.

Its area, according to the Central Statistical Organisation of the Government of India (1966) is 17,828 sq. km. and in this respect, the district ranks sixth in the State. It is eighth according to population (1961 Census) which is 9,34,948 with a density of 137 persons per square mile.

Administrative history and changes

The district, before the formation of Rajasthan, was a part of the Jodhpur State and its administration was carried on in accordance with the rules and regulations which were framed for the entire State. The capital of the State was Jodhpur town.

The entire State was divided into *parganas* and each *pargana* was placed under the charge of a *Hakim* who was both a judicial and an executive officer. He also discharged revenue functions. In the jagir area, the jagirdars were vested with certain judicial and executive powers in accordance to their status and the appeals against their decisions lay with the *Mahakma Khas*. However, after the establishment¹ of a chief court in 1912, most of the powers of the *Mahakma Khas* were transferred to it. In 1924, the judicial department was further reorganised. In 1942, following the policy of separation of judiciary from the executive, separate executive *Hakims* were appointed, one of whom was posted at Nagaur.

In order to associate the public with public administration, a Central Advisory Board at the capital and the District Advisory Boards² at the *Hakumat* headquarters were set up in 1938-39. The Central Advisory Board was replaced by a Representative Advisory Assembly in 1941-42 and the District Advisory Boards were abolished.

The district in the present form came into existence in 1949 when the princely State of Jodhpur was merged into the United States of Greater Rajasthan and was divided into three districts, namely, Jodhpur, Pali and Nagaur. The four *parganas* of Nagaur, Merta, Parvatsar and Didwana, and a part of the fifth—Nawa region of Sambhar *pargana*, all parts of the former Jodhpur State, were clubbed together to form this district. It was then split into four sub-divisions—Nagaur, Didwana, Merta and Parvatsar,

1. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State for the year 1941-42*, Jodhpur (1943), p. 103.

2. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1938-39*, pp. 6-7.

each of which had a tahsil bearing the same name under it except Parvatsar which had two tahsils, namely Parvatsar and Nawa. Later in 1954, three new tahsils namely, Jayal, Ladnun and Degana, and one sub-tahsil, Makrana, were created¹. They were placed under the above mentioned four sub-divisions since then, the details relating to their area, population, number of cities, towns and villages are given below :

DIDWANA SUB-DIVISION—It is situated in the northern-most part of the district and contains two tahsils, Ladnun and Didwana, the former occupying almost the upper half portion of the sub-division. The area of Ladnun is 1256.7 sq. km. while that of Didwana, 1655.9 sq. km. Similarly, the population of the former is less than that of the latter, being 80,363 and 1,15,196 respectively. Both the tahsils have one town each. The number of villages in Ladnun tahsil is 92 (five of these were uninhabited) while Didwana tahsil has only 148 (two being uninhabited).

MERTA SUB-DIVISION—This sub-division occupies the south-western portion of the district and has two tahsils—Degana and Merta, the former having an area of 1906 sq. km. and the latter, 2297 sq. km. The Census of 1961 recorded a population of 105,331 persons inhabiting Degana tahsil, the corresponding figure for Merta was 122,036. Merta tahsil has one town and 172 villages (including 13 uninhabited). There is no town in Degana tahsil and it contains 176 villages (including the two uninhabited).

NAGAU SUB-DIVISION—It is situated on the north-western side of the district and is composed of two tahsils, Jayal and Nagaur, the latter occupying the entire western portion of the district. Nagaur tahsil has an area of 4716.2 sq. km. which is more than double the area of Jayal tahsil (2079.3 sq. km.). In population too, it maintains almost the same proportion being 154,125 and 68,371 respectively. There are 214 villages (including 11 uninhabited) and one town, in Nagaur tahsil while the Jayal tahsil contains 113 villages (including two uninhabited) but has no town.

PARVATSAR SUB-DIVISION—Situated in the south-eastern segment of the district, the sub-division has two tahsils, Nawa and Parvatsar, the former covering the entire eastern boundary of the district. Nawa tahsil

1. These were created out of the existing tahsils by transferring the following villages: (a) 113 villages (area 2941.7 sq. km.) were transferred from Nagaur tahsil to form Jayal tahsil (b) 93 villages and Ladnun town (area 1131.3 sq. km.), were transferred from Didwana tahsil to constitute Ladnun tahsil (c) 170 villages (area 1898.2 sq. km.) were transferred from Merta tahsil to form Degana tahsil. See *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV-Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables* (1964), p. 46.

has an area of 1,532 sq. km. with a population of 121,167 souls spread over 118 villages (one of these is uninhabited) and two towns. The Parvatsar tahsil has an area¹ of 2224.6 sq. km., a population of 168,359 souls living in 202 inhabited villages and two towns.

There are four police circles in the district²—Nagaur, Makrana, Merta and Didwana—which have 23 police stations and 28 out-posts. Their distribution is as follows : Nagaur Police Circle—7 police stations and 10 out-posts; Makrana Police Circle—7 police stations and 7 out-posts; Merta Police Circle—5 police stations and 5 out-posts and lastly, Didwana Police Circle—4 police stations and 6 out-posts.

Towns

The Census of 1961 lists eight towns with a total population of 120,657 (males 62,823 and females 57,834) shown as under : Ladnun 23,825; Didwana 13,547; Nagaur 24,296; Kuchaman 15,458; Makrana 17,270; Nawa 8,097; Parvatsar 5,081 and Merta 13,083.

TOPOGRAPHY

Configuration

The district resembles a deformed parallelogram, on the eastern and western sides of which stand two strangulated triangles with their vertices protruding in the neighbouring districts.

The topography³ is fairly even but for some scattered hills, generally wooded, in the north and in the east, near Makrana. Only a part of the district falls in the category of desert although the north-western region is bespattered with large sand-dunes, extending sometimes in a continuous series. They are locally known as *tiba* and *dhora*.

Elevation

The general slope of the district is towards the west⁴. Its general elevation is about 300 metres, varying from 250 metres in the south to 640 metres in the north.

-
1. The figures of area, population, towns and villages mentioned above have been taken from *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables*, p. 29.
 2. Source : Office of the Superintendent of Police, Nagaur.
 3. Source : Office of the Survey of India, Western Circle, Jaipur.
 4. *ibid.*

Hills

There are no high hills in the district. Dots of hillocks, however, are sporadically scattered, more so in the south-eastern sector. Near Jayal, Khatu, Mundwa and Khajwana, they attain some height but are devoid of any vegetation. Those at Jayal and Khatu are quarried for building stones. Tikli hills are situated near the village of Raisinghpur (Didwana tahsil). Another group of Kolia and Pathava hills in Didwana tahsil do not attain any appreciable height. In Merta, Nawa and Parvatsar tahsils, off-shoots of Aravalli range are projected, specially along the common border with Ajmer district. Those near Kuchaman and Nawa attain some height. The general vegetation found on them consists of *Khair*, *dhav* and *thor*. These hills are quarried for masonry stones especially the long *pattis* or slabs which are used as beams in the buildings.

When compared with other areas of the district, Parvatsar tahsil is found to abound in numerous clusters of hillocks. The Kabra hills spread for nearly 8 km. from village of Peelwa to Baser, Sirias and Kundri. Darmal range, nearly of the same height, runs from the village of Banwal to the border of Ajmer district, nearly a distance of 8 km. Another range from Banwal, known as Dulliawalla, runs to Chachiyas and Narwaro. Among other hillocks of the tahsil, the names of Karmakudi, Arath, Kinsariya, Lamtha and Mahagaon may be mentioned. All these hillocks are covered with vegetation and trees such as *Kakora*, *dhokra*, *dassuja*, *gangaren* and *khair*. There are a number of *ghats* and *ghatis* or passes through these hills, sometimes running for a distance of five kilometres.

In Merta tahsil, the off-shoots of Aravalli, near Thanwala village, run for about five kilometres. Other clusters are those of Tunkaliya, Riyan and Jogi Magra hills.

DESERT—The north, north-west and north-east portions of the district form part of the great Indian desert.

RIVER SYSTEM AND WATER RESOURCES

Rivers¹

No river originates from the district. However, the river Luni, which rises near Pushkar in Ajmer district, after draining the western slopes of the Aravalli, crosses the district of Nagaur in the south and flows

1. Source : Office of the Superintending Engineer, Irrigation Department, Ajmer.

through it towards the west for nearly 37 km. before it enters the Pali district. The important villages situated on its banks in the district are Alaniyawas, Lungiya, Rohisa, Roisi, Jasnagar and Surpura. It is a non-perennial river and has intermittent flow depending upon the rains. Its bed is sandy and percolation is fairly heavy feeding the neighbouring wells and raising their water level.

There are only a few seasonal streams and nullahs which rise and disappear in the district itself. Their flow depends on the volume of the rainfall. Harsor stream originating from the off-shoots of the Aravalli, flows north-west and meets another streamlet past Harsor village and the combined stream loses its identity by discharging into the Pundlotasar. The Harsor, having a sandy bed, has a total run of nearly 48 km. During the monsoon, rivulets and nullahs appear near the villages of Khatu, Barnel, Jayal and Jani, but vanish into the sandy plains after a short run. The output of salt in the depressions at Nawa and Baliya Kharda (in Didwana tahsil), depends on the numerous seasonal nullahs which discharge their water here.

Lakes and tanks¹

There is a big salt lake about 3 km. to the south-west of Didwana having an area of 777 hectares (1920 acres). The Nawa tahsil also shares a part of the well-known Sambhar lake in Jaipur district.

The district possesses very few tanks. The details regarding location, area and volume of water during the rainy season of those tanks which are maintained by the Irrigation department of the State Government are :

PIRJI-KA-NAKA—It is situated about 2.5 km. from Parvatsar on the Parvatsar-Kishangarh road and has an area of 1.8 sq km. Its capacity during the rainy season is 1 262 m.c.m

HARSOR—Situated near village Harsor in Degana tahsil, the tank has an area of 2.5 sq. km. and capacity of 2,492 m.c.m.

BHERUNDA—The tank is situated near village Gole, 5 km. north of Bherunda village and has an area of 2.3 sq. km. Its capacity during the rainy season is 2,044 m.c.m.

HARSOLAO—The tank has an area of 1.00 sq. km. with a capacity of 0 498 m.c.m. It is situated near village Harsolao.

1. Source : Irrigation Department, Government of Rajasthan.

MANGALANA—Situated near village Mangalana on Parvatsar-Makrana road, the tank has an area of 0.7 sq.km. and a capacity of 0.790 m.c.m.

PIPLIA (GOVINDGARH)—The tank has an area of 0.2 sq. km. and a capacity of 0.224 m.c.m. The tank is situated near village Piplia on Merta city-Pushkar road.

DODIYANA—It is situated near village Dodiya on Merta city-Pushkar road and has an area of 0.7 sq. km. and a capacity of 0.644 m.c.m.

BHAKRI MOLAS—The Bhakri project is situated in Parvatsar tahsil and has a capacity of 8.35 m.c.m.

GEOLOGY¹

Geological Antiquity and Formation

The geological antiquity of the district is characterised by the following formations of geological systems representing the chief types of rocks, placed in stratigraphic sequence :

Geological system	Rock type	Location
Recent to sub-recent	Sand, gypsum and salt	Bhadwasi, Gotmanglod, Khairat and Didwana
Vindhya	Sandstone, Limestone and underground gypsum	Khatu Khurd, Gotan, Mundwa, Rol Qazian and Nagaur
Mallani igneous suite and Volcanics	Porphyritic granite	Degana
Delhi	Quartzites	Parvatsar
Raialo	Marble	Makrana
Aravalli	Phyllites	Degana
Pre-Aravalli rocks	Granite	Harsor

The granite exposed around Harsor, although not of much economic significance are the oldest rocks found in the district overlain by the phyllites and biotite schists of the Aravalli system. The Raialo formations succeeding over the Aravallis, are mainly composed of good quality marble of various shades occurring around Makrana. This building stone has been a source of attraction from olden times and is said to have been used in the construction of the Taj Mahal at Agra.

1. Source : Office of the Director, Mines & Geology, Rajasthan, Udaipur.

The Delhi formations stretch along the eastern border of the district in a north-north-east and south-south-west direction, from Pushkar to Kuchaman through Parvatsar and comprise quartzites, calc gneiss, schists and impure limestone. The granites of Mallani system intrude the Aravalli phyllites at Degana and are responsible for the occurrence of a good wolfram deposit. The Vindhyan flagstone (sandstone) quarried near Khatu are used for carving window screens with geometrical patterns. The limestone of this age occurs at Gotan and Mundwa where a large lime burning industry thrives on these deposits. The Vindhyan formations around Nagaur town emit extensive deposits of gypsum.

All grades of gypsum deposits of the sub-recent to recent age of geological antiquity, are located at a number of places in the district.

Minerals

The district has large deposits of the following minerals of economic importance.

GYPSUM—Nagaur district is very rich in the gypsum deposits. The areas bearing gypsum in the district are : Nagaur, Bhadwasi, Got Manglod, Khairat, Dhakoria, Bhadana and Malgu. As estimated by the Geological Survey of India, through drilling, the reserves amount to 952 million tonnes containing 81 per cent and above $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$. The underground deposit has not been worked so far. Most of the gypsum produced here, is supplied to the Sindri Fertiliser Corporation.

WOLFRAM—The wolframite deposit is found in the Rewat hill near Degana. The mineral, a tungstate of iron and manganese, occurs in the veins or lodes in granites and phyllites. Tungsten is chiefly used in the production of alloy steels and high speed cutting steels which retain hardness even when red hot.

MARBLE—This is found at Makrana in the Parvatsar tahsil, in six different bands extending for about 10 km. Makrana marble, which occurs in various beautiful shades—white, pink and spotted, is one of the best marbles in the world. It retains high grade polish which is amply proved by some of the old monuments built of this stone. Marble blocks of any size can be quarried out but due to constant working, the quarries have gone deep and it is difficult to haul up huge blocks now.

LIME STONE—Best grade lime stone occurs at Gotan, Mundwa, Katholi and Ambali in the district.

SAND STONE—It is found almost everywhere in the district but the best grade is available only at Khatu in Didwana tahsil, where some 150 quarries are being worked.

SALT—The district is one of the important salt producing centres which is manufactured at Nawa and Didwana.

SODIUM SULPHATE—It is produced from the salt lake below the salt concentrates at Didwana.

CLAY—Fairly good deposits of white clay are found near the villages of Saradhana, Khajwana, Mundwa, Dharia Khurd, and at a number of places in Merta tahsil. It is chiefly used in making toys.

Earthquakes¹

The district rests on a stable mass where no earthquake of any significance has been located in the past. According to the *Recommendations for Earthquake Resistant Design of Structures* published by the Indian Standard Institution, the district is situated in Seismic Zone II and is liable to experience slight to moderate intensities. However the earthquakes originating in the great Himalayan Boundary Fault Zone, the Rann of Kutch and the Suleman Mountain Range have caused fringe effects with varying intensities in the district in the past. A few earthquakes of small magnitude occurring in the Sambhar lake area have been occasionally felt in the eastern part of the district. The following table shows the intensities of the shocks experienced in the district or which were likely to have been felt in the area as judged from the reports of the adjacent regions.

Year and date of shock	Location	Intensity ² experienced as per modified Mercalli Scale 1931
1819, June 16	Kutch	Felt
1905, April 4	Kangra	IV-V M.M.
1931, August 27	Baluchistan	Felt

1. Source : Office of the Director General of Observatories, New Delhi.

2. Intensity at scale IV & V of the Modified Mercalli Scale read as follows:

Scale IV : During the day, felt indoors by many, outdoors by few. At night some awakened. Dishes, windows, doors disturbed, walls make cracking sound, Sensation like heavy lorry striking building felt. Standing motor-cars rocked noticeably.

Scale V : Felt by nearly everyone, many awakened. Some dishes, windows etc. broken; a few instances of cracked plasters, unstable objects overturned. Disturbances of trees, poles and other tall objects sometimes noticed. Pendulum clocks may stop.

1	2	3
1934, January 15	North Bihar	IV M.M.
1936, May 27	Kumaon region	Felt
1939, January 17	—	Felt
1955, January 27	—	Felt
1967, May 11	Sambhar	Felt
1969, August 20	Sambhar	Felt
1969, November 18	Sambhar	Felt

FLORA¹

Botanical Divisions

The flora of the district is not rich owing to its geographical situation and scanty rainfall. Its western portion presents a dreary look as it is devoid of any natural vegetation cover except the low shrubs or grasses grown on the low sand-dunes, which too turn pale due to intense heat during the summer. The south-eastern areas including a part of the northern tahsils of Ladnun and Didwana, are much greener than the north-west region of the district

Khejri (*prosopis cineraria*), *Neem* (*melia azadirachta*), *babul* (*Acacia nilotica*) and *Kairi* (*acacia senegal*) trees are commonly found in the district while scantily found and sparsely scattered flora include *Jal* (*salvadora oleoides*), *bordi* (*zizyphus jujuba*), *rohra* (*tecomella undulata*), *shisham* (*dalbergia sissoo*), *pipal* (*figus religiosa*), *bar* (*figus bengalensis*), *vilayati babul* (*prosopis juliflora*), *dhau* (*anogeissus pendula*), *kumoat* (*acacia senegal*), *khet* (*feronia limonia*), *imali* (*tamarindus indica*), *kenkera* (*gymnosporia montana*), *gundi* (*cordia rothii*) and *Siras kali* (*Albizzia lebbek*).

The leaves of the *khejri* (*prosopis cineraria*) are used as fodder. It exudes gum. The tree is considered holy by some people and is, therefore, worshipped.

The timber of *rohra* (*tecomella undulata*) and *shisham* (*dalbergia sissoo*) is considered good for furniture. Cots are generally made from the wood of *dhau* (*anogeissus pendula*).

1. Source : Office of the Divisional Forest Officer, Jodhpur and Chief Conservator of Forests, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

The common shrubs and herbs which are found in the district are: *ak* (*calotropis procera*), *phog* (*calligonum polygonoides*) and *thor* (*euphorbia nivelia*). *Ak* (*calotropis procera*) grows in abundance in the district.

Phog (*calligonum polygonoides*) too is a common bush in the district and is used in many ways. Its roots and twigs serve as material for building huts.

Grasses commonly found in the district are : *bagers*, *blambar*, *bhurut* (*Cenchrus cathartious selum*), *dabra* (*Desmostachya bipinnata*), *dachar* (*cyperus arenarius*), *dhawan* (*cenchrus ciliaris*), *danalia*, *ganthia* (*dactyloctenium scindicum*), *gugaria*, *kanti*, *khard*, *lampla* (*Aristida spp.*), *sewan* (*Lasiurus sindicus Munro*), *siniya* (*crotalaria burhii*) and *someeli*.

FOREST—The Forest Department maintains a grass *bir* (grazing enclosure) measuring 92.3 hectares which is let out for grazing every year and brings an average annual revenue of 750 rupees.

FAUNA

Wild Animals

There is no big game in the district. Chinkaras and black bucks which are rarely seen in this area, are protected species under the Rajasthan Wild Animals and Birds Protection Act (1951). Among the small game only *titars* (*partridges*) are found. Other fauna of the district consists of deer, hare, jackal, pig and wild cat.

Birds

The common birds fluttering in the district include *peencha* (white cheeked bulbul), *bulbul* (red vented bulbul), *sugan chiri* (great grey shuki), *bad kagla* (jungle crow), *baya* (tailor bird), *nilkanth* (blue jay), *kochar* (spotted owlet), *ullu* (owl), *khatichida* (hoop), *kam* (common surfi), *raj gidh* (king vulture), *god* (white billed vulture), *saras* (stork), *kagla* (common crow), *cheel* (kite), falcon, *chiri* (house sparrow), *kabutar* (rock pigeons), *kameri* (doves), *tota* (parakeet) and *mor* (peacocks).

Reptiles

Among the reptiles *Chhipakali* (house geckoes), *Kirkantia* (common garden lizard), sand lizards, common snakes viper, common cobra (*kalindra*), common kariat, *bandi* snake, *padam sarpa* and *kodia* snake are common. During the year 1969, 115 cases of snake-bite were.

treated¹ in the various hospitals and dispensaries in the district, of which only one proved fatal.

CLIMATE²

The climate of this district, in common with the adjoining districts of Rajasthan is characterised by highly variable rainfall, extreme dryness and large variations of temperature. The winter season from November to March is followed by the summer from April to June. The period from about the beginning of July to the middle of September constitutes the main rainy season. The latter half of September and October forms the transition period.

Rainfall

Records of rainfall in the district are available for seven raingauge stations namely, Nagaur, Didwana, Merta, Parvatsar, Nawa, Merta Road and Maroth for periods from 32 to 82 years. Tables I and II give the rainfall at these stations and for the district as a whole. The average annual rainfall in the district is 383.4 mm. (15.09"). The rainfall generally increases from the north-west towards the south-east, in the district. The period from June to September is the rainy season, July and August being the rainiest months. The rainfall during the period June to September constitutes about 89 per cent of the annual rainfall. The variation in the rainfall from year to year is very large. In the fifty-year period, from 1901 to 1950, the highest annual rainfall in the district amounting to 251 per cent of the normal occurred in 1917. The very next year, 1918, was the year with the lowest annual rainfall which amounted to only 19 per cent of the normal. In the same fifty-year period, the annual rainfall was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 16 years. In the district as a whole, during this 50 years' period, two consecutive years of rainfall less than 80 per cent of the normal occurred five times. Considering the rainfall at the individual stations, even 3 and 4 consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred once or twice at most of the stations. Parvatsar recorded four consecutive years of such low rainfall twice during the 50-year period. It will be seen from table II that the annual rainfall in the district was between 200 and 500 mm. (7.87" and 19.69") in 34 years out of fifty.

1. Source : Office of the District Medical and Health Officer, Nagaur.

2. Source : Office of the Deputy Director General of Observatories (Climatology & Geophysics), Government of India, Poona.

On an average there are 22 rainy days (i.e. days with rainfall of 2.5 mm. 10 cents or more) in a year in the district. Except at Nawa which has about 27 rainy days in the year, the number of rainy days is more or less uniform over the district and is about 20 to 22 days.

The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at any station in the district was 306.8 mm. (12.08") at Parvatsar on 1929, July 24.

Temperature

There is a meteorological observatory at Nagaur started on May 13, 1958. The description of the climate that follows is based on the record of observatory for the period 1958 to 1965 and also the records of the observatories of neighbouring districts. Temperatures rise rapidly from March. May and June are the mean hottest months with mean daily maximum temperature exceeding 40.0°C. Maximum temperatures rise upto 28°C in June. The summer months are intensely hot and dust laden winds blow. The maximum temperature may sometimes exceed 48°C. With advance of the south-west monsoon into the district by about the beginning of July, day temperatures drop appreciably but with the withdrawal of the monsoon after about the first week of September while the night temperatures continue to fall day temperatures show a rise and the secondary maximum in day temperatures is attained in October. Thereafter both day and night temperatures decrease rapidly. January is the coldest month with the mean daily maximum and minimum temperatures at 22.5°C and 6.7°C respectively. During the winter season, in the wake of passing western disturbances, spells of colder weather are experienced in the district. The minimum temperature on such occasion may drop down to below the freezing point of water and frosts may occur. The diurnal variation of temperature during winter months is of the order of 16°C and the drop in temperature after sunset is appreciable.

The highest maximum temperature recorded at Nagaur was 48.4°C on 1965 May 31 and lowest minimum temperature was 2.0°C on 1964, January 23.

Humidity

Except during the short south-west monsoon season, the relative humidities are very low. Even during the monsoon low humidities prevail in between the rains. The summer months are the driest, when relative humidities are on the average between 20 and 35 per cent in the afternoons.

Cloudiness

During the monsoon season the skies are heavily clouded or overcast on some days. In the rest of the year the skies are clear or lightly clouded. In the winter season, in association with passing western disturbances, cloudy skies prevail for short spells of a day or two.

Winds

Except for moderate to strong winds during the period from May to August, winds are generally light to moderate. During the period from November to February the winds are mainly from direction between north west and north. Westerly to south-westerly winds begin in March and these become more common with the advance of summer. In the south-west monsoon season, winds are mostly from directions between west and south. During October, winds are light and variable in direction.

Special weather phenomena

Some of the depressions which originate in the Bay of Bengal during the south-west monsoon season move in a westerly to north-westerly direction, and occasionally reach the district or its neighbourhood causing widespread rain and strong winds, before dissipating. Dust-storms and thunder-storms occur in the hot season and are sometimes accompanied by squalls. Thunder-storms occur in the monsoon season also.

Tables III, IV and V give the temperature and humidity, mean wind speed and frequency of special weather phenomena respectively for Nagaur.

TABLE I
Normals and extremes of rainfall

Station	No. of years of data	Month												Annual rainfall as % of normal & years*	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal & years*	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal & years**	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours*	Date
		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December					
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
Nagaur	50 a 5.3 7.9	5.6 3.3 13.2	32.0 32.0	90.2 101.6	40.9 5.3 0.8 3.8	309.9 260	20	242.1 1953, Aug. 29										
	b 0.4 0.6	0.5 0.3 1.1	2.4 5.4	5.4	2.6 0.5 0.1 0.3	19.6 (1917) (1918)												
Didwana	50 a 6.1 5.6	5.1 3.8 11.9	35.8 117.6	121.4 41.1 3.8 0.8 3.8	356.8 349	13	171.5 1924, Aug. 11											
	b 0.7 0.7	0.5 0.4 1.1	2.5 6.2	6.2	2.7 0.3 0.1 0.4	21.8 (1917) (1918)												
Merta (City)	50 a 5.1 6.1	4.8 3.8 12.2	40.6 135.4	141.0 59.4 6.6 1.5 2.3	418.8 307	18	279.4 1943, July 16											
	b 0.6 0.6	0.5 0.3 1.1	2.5 6.4	6.3	2.9 0.4 0.2 0.3	22.1 (1917) (1918)												
Parvatsar	50 a 4.3 4.6	2.0 2.0 10.7	38.6 134.6	122.9 58.2 4.6 1.5 5.3	389.3 220	18	306.8 1929, July 24											
	b 0.5 0.4	0.3 0.2 1.1	2.5 6.0	6.1	2.4 0.4 0.1 0.3	20.3 (1924) (1918)												
Nawa	50 a 10.4 5.8	6.9 4.3 12.7	39.6 160.3	152.4 61.0 7.6 2.0 5.8	468.8 250	16	196.9 1929, July 24											
	b 0.8 0.7	0.7 0.4 1.5	2.8 7.8	8.0	3.6 0.5 0.2 0.4	27.4 (1917) (1905)												
Merta Road	41 a 3.6 4.6	3.8 2.0 8.4	37.6 137.4	126.5 51.8 7.4 0.3 2.0	385.4 257	17	186.9 1924, Sep. 12											
	b 0.3 0.5	0.4 0.3 1.0	2.6 6.4	6.2	2.7 0.4 0.0 0.2	21.0 (1917) (1918)												
Maroth	21 a 4.8 3.6	7.1 5.1 13.2	22.3 126.2	120.7 43.2 3.8 1.0 3.6	354.6 188	8	156.2 1912, July 11											
	b 0.6 0.4	0.5 0.3 1.0	1.8 5.9	6.2	2.9 0.3 0.1 0.3	20.3 (1909) (1918)												
Nagaur (District)	a 5.7 5.5	5.0 3.5 11.8	35.2 128.8	126.6 50.8 5.6 1.1 3.8	383.4 251	19												
	b 0.6 0.6	0.5 0.3 1.1	2.4 6.3	6.3	2.8 0.4 0.1 0.3	21.7 (1917) (1918)												

(a) Normal rainfall in mm.

(b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more).

* Based on all available data upto 1965.

** Years given in brackets.

TABLE II
Frequency of Annual Rainfall in the district

Range in mm	No. of years	Range in mm	No. of years
1-100	1	501-600	6
101-200	5	601-700	3
201-300	10	701-800	0
301-400	11	801-900	0
401-500	13	901-1000	1

TABLE III

Normals of Temperature and Relative Humidity (Nagaur)

Month	Mean daily maximum temperature °C	Mean daily minimum temperature °C	Highest maximum ever recorded °C	Date	Lowest minimum ever recorded °C	Date	Relative Humidity	
							0830* %	1730* %
January	22.5	6.7	31.0	1965 Jan. 15	-2.0	1964 Jan. 23	54	40
February	26.5	10.0	34.6	1960 Feb. 28	1.1	1964 Feb. 2	46	32
March	32.1	15.7	40.1	1959 March 23	5.6	1963 March 3	39	29
April	36.7	20.9	43.3	1962 April 24	11.5	1965 April 2	39	26
May	40.4	25.7	48.4	1965 May 31	16.6	1960 May 8	34	20
June	40.3	27.9	44.6	1961 June 10	19.4	1963 June 8	55	33
July	36.4	27.1	44.0	1963 July 5	22.6	1964 July 14	71	54
August	34.4	25.9	42.2	1955 Aug. 20	24.8	1964 Aug. 24	75	60
September	34.3	24.3	41.6	1960 Sept. 28	18.3	1962 Sept. 30	70	54
October	34.9	19.1	40.4	1965 Oct. 6	10.0	1964 Oct. 25	49	36
November	29.4	12.4	36.1	1965 Nov. 1	4.9	1962 Nov. 27	48	38
December	24.1	7.9	31.4	1959 Dec. 5	-0.6	1964 Dec. 13	52	39
Annual	32.7	18.6					53	38

* Hours I. S. T.

TABLE IV

Mean Wind Speed in km/hr.

(Nagaur)

January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual
5.3	6.1	8.4	8.6	12.1	17.3	14.5	11.5	8.7	5.4	4.8	5.0	9.0

TABLE V

Special Weather Phenomena

(Nagaur)

Mean No. of days with	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Annual
Thunder	0.1	0.0	0.7	1.3	1.6	1.9	1.4	0.6	0.5	0.4	0.0	0.3	8.8
Hail	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.3	0.3
Dust-storm	0.0	0.0	1.0	1.3	4.1	2.7	1.3	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	10.4
Squall	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Fog	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.5	1.3

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

The present district of Nagaur was carved out of the erstwhile Jodhpur State and, therefore, its history forms a part of that of the Marwar after the advent of the Rathors whose different *khamps* held greater part of this area in jagirs.

No pre-historic site has been discovered in the district so far. However, a study of the excavations made by the archaeological department in the adjoining districts, especially those in the west, has revealed the existence of palaeolithic, mesolithic and microlithic sites. A study of the basin of the Luni river, which flows through this district for some length, shows the existence of early man in this region¹.

ANCIENT PERIOD

References to Maru and Jangala regions are available in the ancient works such as *Rigveda*, *Mahabharata* and *Puranas* but their extent cannot be fixed with exactitude due to the changing boundaries of these regions in different periods of Indian history. Generally speaking, Jangala territory lay to the south of Kuru and Madra *Janapadas* and perhaps south-east Punjab adjoining Rajasthan, as is evident from the nomenclatures such as Kuru-Jangala and Madra-Jangala in the *Mahabharata*. It is not unlikely that the territories forming the district, might have been a part of the Maru and the Jangaladesh or both, at one time or the other.

After the invasion of Alexander in 326 B.C., migration of several republican tribes began southwards from the Punjab. Some of them occupied different regions of Rajasthan, while others moved even beyond its frontiers. The Salvakas established themselves in the region occupied by the erstwhile Bikaner State while the Malavas moved to Malavanagar² in

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1. *Indian Archaeology—A Review*, 1958–59, Government of India, p. 42.
 2. An inscription dated V. S. 1043 (A.D. 986) discovered at Nagar or Karkotnagar in Uniara tahsil (formerly of Jaipur State) of Tonk district calls the place as Malava-Nagara and describes its prosperity. The name Karkotanagar, often applied to the city, probably suggests that, for a time, it passed to the Nagas; vide *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. II, Bombay (1960), p. 164.

Jaipur and later settled in the Ajmer-Tonk-Marwar area. It is, therefore, not unlikely, that in the succeeding centuries, Nagaur district which forms a common boundary with Bikaner, Jaipur and Ajmer districts might have been under the influence or must have been actually ruled by one or all the tribes mentioned above or their splinter groups.

The expedition of Ushavadata against the Malavas and his offering of several gifts after bathing in Pushkara, not far from the south-eastern boundary of this district, may allude to the Saka influence over this region. The Junagarh inscription of the Saka era 72 (150-51 A.D.) further corroborates¹ this view when it mentions that Rudradaman I ruled over Maru, Kachchha and Sindhu, however, besides other territories. It is likely that the Malavas and Arjunayanas combined together against the Sakas and over threw them². This area must have come under the suzerainty of the Kushans also because their coins have been discovered to the south-east of the district at Sambhar and Pisangan and to the north and north-west at Suratgarh, Hanumangarh and Rangmahal. The end of their influence probably came after 200 A. D. at the hands of the Yaudheyas and the allied republican people of Rajasthan.

The Allahabad Pillar inscription of Samudragupta alludes to the political conditions prevalent in northern India around 340 A.D. The Gupta rule was, till then confined to Magadha and the eastern Uttar Pradesh. Beyond it lay the territories of the powerful Naga confederacy, then perhaps headed by Ganpati Naga and a host of other States, monarchic as well as republican, including the Malavas, Arjunayanas, Yaudheyas and Abhiras. These States paid tribute and homage to the emperor and their representatives attended the Gupta durbars. The control of the Guptas over Rajasthan must have increased during the next one hundred years or so and remained³ unimpaired upto c. 500 A. D. when the white Hunas raided India and subjugated the territories. The history after the incursions of the Hunas is not very clear, but most probably they were driven out of Rajasthan by Yashodharman of Malwa whose reign, too, did not last long and the political instability gave rise to various Rajput clans who established their political power throughout Rajasthan. The names of the Pratiharas of Mandor (in Jodhpur), Chapas of Bhinmal and the Maurya family of Jhalrapatan can be mentioned with certainty, having their existence during the sixth and seventh centuries.

1. *The History and Culture of the Indian People, Vol. II*, Bombay (1960), p. 184.

2. *Rajasthan Through the Ages, Vol. I*, Ed. Dr. Dasharatha Sharma, Ajmer (1966), p. 52.

3. *ibid.*, p. 60.

The Chauhans probably started their political career as subordinate allies of the Pratiharas.

In the wake of time, the Pratiharas of Gurjaradesha, allied with other powers, were successful in repulsing the inroads of the Arabs and established hegemony over all the other clans in Rajasthan, thus starting a career of imperialism. The Pratihara ruler Nagabhata I, perhaps a feudatory of the vanquished Chapas of Bhinmal, organised resistance against the Arabs and won a crown for himself. It is difficult to establish the relationship between the Pratiharas of Mandor and Nagabhata, the Pratihara ruler of Bhinmal. The dominions of Nagabhata I, at the zenith of his power included Bhinmal, Lata, Jalor, Abu and probably some other chunks of territories in Rajasthan and Central India. His successor Nagabhata II, extended the frontiers of the kingdom to the east and the south. Rajasthan remained, till his time, the *Sya-vishaya* or 'own division' denoting a privileged position which the territory occupied in his vast empire. An inscription on a copper plate of the reign of Bhoja I, the grandson of Nagabhata II was discovered at Daulatpura, about 10 km. to the south-east of Didwana, from which we learn that Nagabhata had permitted the original donee, Bhatta Vasudeva, to transfer, by a deed of gift, one-sixth of the Shivagraha, a village in the Dendavanaka *Vishaya* (or modern Didwana) to another Brahmana. This shows that at least upto 843 A.D. (v. s. 900) when Bhoja I was on the imperial throne, this area remained a part of the Pratihara dominions. Bhoja, the greatest Indian ruler of the latter half of the ninth century, included in his empire Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Central India, Malwa, Saurashtra, south-east Punjab and parts perhaps of Bihar and western Punjab. Towards the close of his reign, he conquered Lata and ended the Gujarat line of the Rashtrakutas¹.

The Pratihara dynasty of Mandor (in Jodhpur) continued simultaneously with the Imperial Pratiharas of Gurjaradesha. The Mandor branch traces its origin from a Brahmana named Harishchandra and his Kshatriya wife Bhadra. Harishchandra had four sons—Bhogbhata, Kakkuka, Rajjila and Dadda who by their own prowess fortified Mandor and became its masters. Rajjila had a son, Narabhata by name, whose son Nagabhata established himself at Medantaka or the modern Merta and made it his capital. Nagabhata's elder son Tata, abdicated in favour of his younger brother Bhoja and practised austerities at Mandor.

There was yet another power emerging to the south and south-east of the district, that of the Chauhans of Shakambhari. The region near

1. *Rajasthan Through the Ages, Vol. I*, Ed. Dr. Dasbaratha Sharma, Ajmer (1966), p. 158.

Harshanatha, to the north-east of the district, in Sikar, was their homeland which was then known as Anantgochara and Ahichchatrapura was its chief town.

However, the location of this town, Ahichchatrapura of Anantgochara, or the land of Ananta the lord of Nagas has not been determined. Dr. G.H. Ojha and Harbilasa Sarda identify the town of Nagaur as Ahichchatrapura because, firstly the names Ahichchatrapura and Nagaur are synonymous and secondly, Nagaur was at a hard-day's ride from Sambhar, and the *Prithvirajavijaya* puts Vasudeva's capital, presumably Ahichchatrapura, at the same distance from Sambhar. But Dr. Dasharatha Sharma dismisses the above conjecture because the synonymity of the two names is doubtful. According to him, Ahichchatrapura is not an exact equivalent of Nagaur or Nagapura, the exact equivalent being Ahipura. Secondly, Nagapura or Nagaur, in spite of being a well known Jain *tirtha*, is never mentioned as Ahichchatrapura in any Jain work. The argument based on the *Prithvirajavijaya* is also, according to him, unsound. The description there shows that Vasudeva passed the night in the temple of Shakambhari and early in the morning, he started from there for his capital which he reached a little after sun rise. Therefore, the capital of Vasudeva could not have been at a hard day's ride from Sambhar, according to this source¹. Ahichchatrapura, as argued by Dr. Sharma, should be somewhere between Puntala and Sambhar, or near about these spots.

Ajayaraja, the Chauhan ruler of Shakambhari and the founder of Ajmer, is also credited with a victory over the *Garjana Matangas* or the Ghaznavides which appears to be doubtful. We learn from *Tabqat-i-Nasiri* and *Tarikh-i Firishta* that Muhammad Bahlm who was appointed by Bahram Shah of Ghazna as the governor of his possessions in Hindustan in 1112 A.D. declared himself independent of Sultan Bahram and moved southward, captured and fortified the town of Nagaur and made it the seat of his power. As Nagaur had been, according to one account, under Ajayaraja at that time, he must have been the ruler who suffered most at the hands of this invader. Bahlm brought his army and treasure to Nagaur and made it a base for further raids on the territories of neighbouring rulers. After a while he marched against his former master Sultan Bahram with a large army but was swallowed up in a quick sand near Multan when he was trying to escape after his defeat by Bahram. On the death of Muhammad Bahlm, Bahram Shah appointed Salar Hussain as the governor of his Indian dominions. After the demise of Ajayaraja,

1. Sharma. Dasharatha, *Early Chauhan Dynasties*, Delhi (1959), p. 12, footnote 40.

Arnoraja ascended the throne and inflicted a defeat on the Muslim general, who was probably Salar Hussain.

But the rise of Chauhans was soon checkmated by the Chaulukyas of Gujarat with whom, as a result, they entered into matrimonial relations. The struggle for hegemony brought Arnoraja Chauhan in conflict with Kumarapala Chaulukya, the latter defeating the former. Arnoraja was soon put to death by his own son Jagaddeva. The patricide could not live long and was succeeded by his younger brother Vighraharaja IV or Bisaldeva. By this time, the above mentioned Kumarapala had made himself the master of Chittaur and put it under a governor, named Sajjana. Vighraharaja attacked Chittaur and slew the governor. Kumarapala tried a diversion by besieging Nagaur, but raised the siege when he heard Vighraharaja's success. However, the Chauhan power was gradually declining under the pressure of the neighbouring States and also due to the dissensions amongst themselves.

The other principalities at this time, which exercised influence in the area now forming Nagaur district, were at Maroth and Parvatsar. These areas were formerly ruled by the Yaudheyas¹. Chachcha Dahiya (a corrupt form of Daddhya), who enjoyed a chiefship in Parvatsar, built a temple of Bhawani at Kinsariya (in Parvatsar tahsil), and was a feudatory of Durlabharaja of Shakambhari. Their continued occupation of the area is evident from another Dahiya inscription near the same temple at Kinsariya of 1300 v.s. (1243 A.D.). A third inscription is from Mangalana near Maroth which records the construction of a step-well by Jaitrasinha a feudatory of Valhanadeva of Ranthambhor. In the reign of Vighraharaja IV Maroth was ruled by his maternal uncle Sinhabala, who also enjoyed the honour of being the chief general of Vighraharaja. The mother of Vighraharaja and Jagaddeva (the parricide) was probably the sister of Simhabala².

MEDIÆVAL PERIOD

During the reign of Prithviraja III, the areas covered by the present Nagaur district were a part of *Sapadlaksha* empire but after his defeat at the battle of Tarain in 1192, at the hands of Muhammad Ghori, the empire was shattered to pieces. Henceforth, the Muslim rulers appear on the scene

1. *Rajasthan Through the Ages*, Vol. I, Ed. Dr. Dasharatha Sharma, Ajmer (1966), p. 231.

2. *ibid.*, p. 288.

and they made Ajmer and Nagaur the main centres of their power. Qutb-ud-din Aibak who had come in the train of Muhammad Ghori was deputed by the latter as his viceroy of his dominions in Hindustan and he chose Delhi as his seat. He restored Ajmer to Govindraja, the son of Prithviraja on payment of heavy tribute which was resented by Prithviraja's younger brother Hariraja who drove out Govindraja from Ajmer. But Hariraja was soon defeated at the hands of the Muslims and Ajmer again slipped into the hands of the Muslims after a short while. In 1195, the Mers of Ajmer in concert with the Chaulukyas of Gujarat rose against the Muslims, the latter after a stubborn fight were forced to retreat and shut themselves in the fort of Ajmer. However, timely arrival of the reinforcements from Ghazani not only saved the situation but enabled the Muslims to take an offensive. Aibak marched against the Chaulukyas and sacked their capital Anhillapatan. After the ordeal of power, the Muslims established themselves securely in Ajmer, which was an important city having been the stronghold of the Chauhans for centuries and falling on the important highways. Though there is no exact information about the trade routes of those days but one of the routes which was extensively used was from Delhi to Ajmer through Bhiwani, Narhad, Reni, Nagaur, Merta and to Ajmer where it bifurcated, one branch going along the present western railway track towards Ahmedabad, other branch took the route through Sojat, Jalor and Deesa or one could proceed directly from Merta to Jalor by way of Samdari. Then there was a third route from Delhi to the present town of Udaipur via Amber and Ajmer and Rikhabdeo to the present Ahmedabad town which was perhaps followed by Ulugh Khan when he attacked Somnath.

Qutb-ud-din Aibak assumed the supreme power in Lahore in 1206 after the death of his master, Muhammad Ghori. Aibak too died after four years in 1210 and the Delhi Sultanate passed into the hands of Aramshah and then to Iltutmish. In 1226, Iltutmish commenced operations in Rajasthan by recapturing Bayana and Tahangarh and widening the Ajmer base by garrisoning the neighbouring positions of Lawa, Kasli and Sambhar and conquering Jalor and Mandor but the success proved transitory and his death in 1236 left the work of consolidation of his possessions unfinished and the Sultanate passed into the hands of Raziya and her weak successors. In 1242 A.D., Nagaur, Mandor and Ajmer were assigned to Malik Izzuddin Balban (alias Kishlu Khan) as his fiefs¹ by the Delhi Sultan. In 1250 A.D., Kishlu Khan of Nagaur demanded that the fiefs of

1. *The Cambridge History of India, Vol. III*, Ed. Lt. Col. Sir Wolsley Haig (1958), p. 64.

Multan and Uch should be bestowed upon him. His request was granted on the condition that he should relinquish the fief of Nagaur and his other fiefs to Ikhtiyar-ud-din Kuraiz who was holding Multan and Uch. But Kishlu Khan ignored this condition and marched from Nagaur and expelled Kuraiz. Soon after, he was persuaded by Qurlugh to surrender Multan which he did and then retired to Nagaur. But the Delhi Sultan, Mahmud, in order to retaliate for the disobedience of his orders, marched against Kishlu Khan who submitted and retired to Uch. Kashli Khan, brother of Ghiyasuddin Balban, was then granted the fief of Nagaur.

Ghiyasuddin Balban the lord Chamberlain of the Sultan, lost his master's favour due to the court intrigues in which Raihan, the eunuch played an important role. He was deprived of his fief of Hansi and assigned the fief of Nagaur in 1253, while his brother Kashli Khan was transferred from Nagaur to Kara. Balban enhanced his power in his new fief. He sacked Nahardeo of Ranthambhor and obtained a large booty which he could use for promoting his own designs. Meanwhile the dissatisfaction against the eunuch mounted in the court and nearly all the great nobles of the kingdom invited Balban to the court to acquire his position and liberate them from the eunuch. A confederacy was subsequently formed and Balban from Nagaur, Arsalan Khan Sanjar of Bhatinda, Bat Khan Aibak of Sunam and Jalal-u-din and Sunqar from Lahore assembled at Bhatinda with their troops. The Sultan faced this confederacy near Sunam but retired to Hansi soon after. The confederacy advanced further and by secret negotiations between the nobles of the Sultan and the confederates the eunuch was dismissed from the high office he held and was transferred to the fief of Budaun. Balban was received by the Sultan and was restored to the previous high position.

It appears that Nagaur remained a part of the Delhi Sultanate till the reign of Ghias-ud-din Balban. The Sultan died in 1287 A.D. and was succeeded by weaklings with the result that Nagaur tract was attacked by Hamir of Ranthambhor and a portion of it was annexed by him to his territory. It is to be noted that Nagaur lost most of its importance after the death of Balban and the centre of gravity shifted to Ranthambhor, Chittaur and Merta during the reign of Khalji and Tughluq Sultans of Delhi.

Ala-ud-din Khalji ascended the throne of Delhi in 1296 A.D. He succeeded in subduing the Chauhans of Ranthambhor. In 1306, the last of the Mongol invasions during Ala-ud-din's reign, took place. It was directed from two sides. One army under Kubak crossed the Sindhu and

through Multan advanced to the Ravi, while the other led by Iqbal and Tai Bu, marched southward upto Nagaur¹. Ala-ud-din was able to repulse both the attacks through Malik Naib Kafur, assisted by Ghazi Malik Tughluq, who first routed the army led by Kubak on the banks of Ravi and then marched southward to Nagaur and whirled upon the army of Iqbal and Tai Bu and routed it². Ala-ud-din was able to consolidate his position in Rajputana. Ranthambhor, Mewar, Siwana, Jalor and Jaisalmer passed into Muslim hands before the close of his reign. Muslim inscriptions began to appear even in the interior. The Pandukha Inscription of *Vaisakha Vadi* 6, v.s. 1358 (c. 1301 A.D.) refers to Ala-ud-din of Joginipura (Delhi) and his viceroy Tajuddin Ali at Medantaka (Merta). The Ladnun inscription of 1316 A.D. which has dates of the reigns of Qutb-ud-din and Ghiyas-ud-din Tughluq, had its first part incised in the reign of Ala-ud-din Khalji³. Another inscription⁴ of the 1st of *Shawwal* A.H. 761 (15th August, 1360) of the reign of Firuz Tughluq has been found at Bari Khatu in this district. It is a kind of epitaph of six martyrs whose names are not mentioned but who displayed feats of valour in a religious war and sacrificed their lives.

After the death of Firuz Shah Tughluq in 1388, the process of the disintegration of the Delhi Sultanate set in. Zafar Khan who was appointed⁵ governor of Gujarat by Sultan Nasiruddin Muhammad in 1391 assumed the royal insignia and declared himself Sultan Muzaffar Shah. Jalal Khan Khokhar, the *Kiledar* of Nagaur which now formed a part of Gujarat Suba, acknowledged the sovereignty of the Sultan of Gujarat. The invasion of Timur in 1398 further worsened the position because, after his departure, the whole of northern India was plunged in political disorder and confusion and hundreds of independent and semi-independent principalities sprang up.

In 1406 A.D. Rao Chunda, the Rathor, had taken Mandor⁶ from the Parihars and contracted a matrimonial alliance with them. He made Mandor a seat of his power. He annexed Nagaur⁷ and other neighbouring

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1. Lal, K.S., *History of the Khaljis*, Bombay (1967), pp. 147-148.
 2. *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. VI (Bombay), 1960, p. 29.
 3. *Rajasthan Through the Ages*, Vol. I, Ed. Dr. Dasharatha Sharma (Ajmer), 1966 p. 701.
 4. *Indian Archaeology-A Review* (1958-59), p. 64.
 5. *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. VI, Bombay (1960), p. 155.
 6. Ojha, G.H., *The History of the Jodhpur State*, Pt. I, Ajmer (1938), p. 207.
 7. *The History and Culture of the Indian People*, Vol. VI, Bombay (1960), p. 352.

places of Sambhar and Didwana to his dominions. It appears that Nagaur, after the death of Rao Chunda slipped into the hands of the Muslims¹. In 1408, Muzaffar Shah, the ruler of Gujarat, appointed his brother Shams Khan as the Subedar of Nagaur. Sometime later Shams Khan was succeeded by his son Firoz at Nagaur. Soon after Ahmad Shah, the grandson and successor of Muzaffar was confronted by a conspiracy through which his uncles, the eldest of whom Firoz, endeavoured to ascend the throne of Gujarat but the attempt proved abortive and Firoz had to flee to Nagaur. Ahmad Shah of Gujarat marched and laid siege to the fort but retreated on the approach of Khizr Khan, the Sayyad Sultan of Delhi who was also advancing towards Nagaur (1416 A.D.) on an appeal from its Muslim ruler against the aggression of Ahmad Shah.² Nagaur was restored to Firoz. But Nagaur submitted to Khizr Khan only temporarily and transferred its allegiance to Gujarat two years later under the threat of an invasion from Malwa. Around 1427, Ranamall the son of Rao Chunda occupied Nagaur and its Muslim ruler was killed.³

There is a mention⁴ of one Qiyam Khan 'who is said to be the ruling chief of Nagaur around 1447 A.D. In *Tabqat-i-Akbari* this name is given as Mujahid Khan.

In 1453, Mahmud Shah Khalji, ruler of Malwa set out to invade Nagaur but the governor of Nagaur, obtained military aid from the Sultan of Gujarat and Mahmud retreated from Sambhar without any encounter. Soon after a civil strife broke out⁵ over the issue of succession, between Mujahid, the brother of Firoz and Shams Khan, his son. Shams Khan sought help from Rana Kumbha of Mewar on the stipulation that he would dismantle the fortifications at Nagaur and would accept the overlordship of the Rana. The Rana was successful in expelling Mujahid from Nagaur and installed Shams Khan but the latter did not fulfil the terms of agreement. This led to the occupation of Nagaur by the Rana. Shams Khan fled to the court of the Sultan of Gujarat and sought his help for his restoration at Nagaur. He gave his daughter in marriage to the Sultan. Therefore, the Sultan (Qutb-ud-din) despatched Amichand and Malik Gadai with an army to restore Nagaur to Shams Khan but it was

1. *The History and Culture of the Indian People, Vol. VI*, Bombay (1960), p. 352.

2. *ibid*, p. 127. However, different sources give different chronology.

3. *ibid.*, p. 353. This and other dates given here are tentative.

4. *ibid.*, pp. 135-136 and fn. 31.

5. *ibid.*, p. 334. Also see *The Cambridge History of India, Vol. III*, pp. 294-303.

routed by the Rana. In 1456, the Sultan himself marched against the Rana to avenge the defeat but returned unsuccessful.

This led to an alliance between the Sultans of Gujarat and Malwa with the motive of routing the Rana and to divide his dominions between themselves. The army of the combined forces marched against the Rana, who after a struggle, came to terms which were respected more in breach than in their observance. The Rana, soon after, recovered Nagaur from the Sultan of Gujarat. But the latter again took the field in 1458 and captured Nagaur and other territories and returned after extorting a promise from the Rana not to interfere in the affairs of Nagaur. Shams Khan was installed at Nagaur but he was soon after murdered by the Gujarati Officers at Nagaur as he was suspected of instigating his daughter (who was married to the Sultan) to poison her husband.

Thereafter, Nagaur formed a part of the kingdom of Gujarat during the reign of Mahmud Shah Begara (1458-1511 A.D.). However, the supremacy of the Lodi Sultan Sikandar (1489-1517 A.D.) was fully acknowledged by the chief of Nagaur, Muhammed Khan¹. During this period, the Rathors of Jodhpur also expanded their power. Rao Jodha laid the foundation of Jodhpur city in 1459 and transferred there his seat of government from Mandor. His daughter was married to Rana Rai Mal of Mewar. Rao Jodha's numerous sons established² themselves in different principalities while one of them, Rao Bika occupied Nagaur and carved out a separate State for himself and founded the city of Bikaner. Rao Duda, the son of Jodha established at Merta whose descendants are termed as Mertia sept of Rathors. His grand daughter Mira Bai (daughter of Ratna Singh) was given in marriage to a Mewar prince.

However, despite the policy of expansion pursued by the Rathors of Jodhpur and Bikaner, Nagaur, surprisingly enjoyed peace. The Khans of Nagaur, in accordance with the directions of the Sultan of Gujarat, tried to check the designs of the Ranas of Mewar, the Subedars of Ajmer, the Sultans of Malwa and the Kayam Khanis of Fatehpur. But in 1509, Muhammad Shah of Nagaur, submitted to the authority of the Delhi Sultanate, and caused the Khutba to be read and coins struck³ in the name of Sikandar Lodi. Nagaur remained under the Lodi Sultans till the defeat of Ibrahim Lodi at the battle of Panipat. Thereafter, Sarkhel Khan, the Khan of Nagaur began to act independently. In 1528, the combined forces

1. *The History and Culture of the Indian People, Vol VI*, Bombay (1960), p. 355.

2. *ibid.*, p. 145.

3. Ojha, G.H., *op. cit.*, p. 287.

of Rao Ganga of Jodhpur and Jet Singh of Bikaner attacked Nagaur to punish the Khan for his help to Shekha the Rao of Shekhawati but timely aid from Nahar Khan of Fatehpur saved him from the defeat.

After the battle of Panipat, the Sultanate of Delhi came to an end. A concerted effort was made to push back Babur under the leadership of Rana Sanga, and several chiefs including Rai Mal, the grandson of Rao Ganga of Jodhpur and the Mertia chieftains Khet Singh and Ratna joined it, but in the battle of Khanua the invader emerged victorious.

At Jodhpur, Ganga was succeeded by Rao Maldeo in 1532 A. D. He reduced many local hereditary chieftains and increased his possessions. His territories included Merta, Nagaur, Phalodi, parts of Bikaner and Jaisalmer, Ajmer with several other smaller districts and a large portion of Amber which brought him close to the limits of Agra and Delhi. Under him, Marwar reached the zenith of its power¹. Maldeo erected numerous fortifications. A strong wall was built around the city of Jodhpur. The wall surrounding Merta and its fort which he called Malkot, is said to have cost him about 2½ lakhs; he seized Pokaran, Bhadrajan, Siwana, Gundoj, Riyan, Pipar, Dunara and other places. His position became so strong that when emperor Humayun was driven by Sher Shah, he sought protection from Maldeo.

Sher Shah invaded the territories of Maldeo and captured Nagaur in 1542. In 1544 he again attacked Marwar and took the forts of Jodhpur, Ajmer, Abu and Jalor. Nagaur became a *Sarkar* of Sur empire and Isha Khan Niyazi was posted as its *faujdar*².

Nagaur remained in the possession of the governor of Ajmer Subah, Hajikhan, after the death of Sher Shah. In 1556 A. D. emperor Akbar despatched Pir Muhammad Shervani to occupy Mewar and Ajmer. Consequently Hajikhan fled to Gujarat, and Mewar, Ajmer and Nagaur were added to the Mughal empire. Nagaur was bestowed upon Mirza Sharafuddin as jagir. He was sent to effect the conquest of Merta which was held by Rathor Jaimal or Jagmal and Devidas. The Rathors decided that the garrison would march out with their horses and arms but leave behind all their property and effects. When the victorious army went to take possession of the fort, Jaimal marched out with his men but Devidas

1. Erskine, K.D., *A Gazetteer of the Jodhpur State and some Statistical Tables*, Ajmer (1909), p. 56.

2. Elliot, H. M. and Dowson, J., *History of India as told by its own Historians*, Vol. VI, pp. 21-22.

set fire to the property in the fortress and then sallied forth at the head of a party of Rajputs to fight desperately. Sharafuddin and his nobles chased him and in the engagement that followed, Devidas was cut to pieces and the fort of Merta was occupied by the imperial army (1562 A. D.). The place was, however, restored to the Jodhpur ruler, Raja Udai Singh, some twenty years later.

Mirza Sharafuddin rose in revolt, but was forced to flee to Gujarat, and Nagaur was put in charge of a *Hakim*, named Hussain Quli Beg, and included in the Suba of Ajmer. Nagaur continued to be a part of the Mughal empire till Shahjahan's reign when he bestowed it in 1638 on Amar Singh, the elder son of Raja Gaj Singh (1620–38 A. D.). It is to be noted that Amar Singh was disinherited by Gaj Singh in 1634 in consequence of his violent disposition and turbulent conduct and Gaj Singh's younger son Jaswant Singh had succeeded to the gadi.

Amar Singh was murdered in 1644 to avenge the death of Salabat Khan, a courtier of Shahjahan, but the jagir was granted to his son Rai Singh (1649) and then to the latter's son Inder Singh who enjoyed it for some time. After Jaswant Singh's death Aurangzeb occupied it with his troops but when he was in the Deccan, Ajit Singh, the son of the deceased Maharaja Jaswant Singh of Jodhpur succeeded with the help of his faithful and heroic noble Durgadas in reoccupying certain parts of his ancestral patrimony. He recovered Merta and defeated the imperial troops at Dunara. After Aurangzeb's death in 1707, Ajit Singh expelled the Muslim governor from Jodhpur and annihilated the imperial garrison.

Bahadur Shah who succeeded Aurangzeb, seized Jodhpur. But Ajit Singh and Sawai Jai Singh of Amber jointly marched against the imperial forces at Jodhpur, occupied the place, and then took Merta, Ajmer and Sambhar defeating the imperial troops in 1709. After a year or two, the emperor was forced to make peace. But when the Sayyad brothers were in power, Jodhpur was invested and Ajit Singh was defeated, his eldest son Abhay Singh was taken to Delhi as hostage, his daughter Indra Kunwar was given in marriage to Emperor Farrukhsiyar. Ajit Singh was appointed Subedar of Gujarat and the *pargana* of Nagaur was conferred upon prince Abhay Singh.

In 1719 with the help of Ajit Singh Farrukhsiyar was imprisoned and murdered by the Sayyad brothers. During the political chaos which followed, Ajit Singh annexed Ajmer as well as the salt lakes of Didwana and Sambhar and other places. This was the acme of his reign. He began

to coin money in his own name, introduced his own weights and measures, established courts; regulated the ranks of his nobles and routed with heavy loss the Mughal armies that were sent to recover Ajmer. But he had to surrender that fort to Muhammad Shah in 1723. In the same year, Inder Singh who had been dispossessed of his jagir of Nagaur in 1715 approached the imperial court and got it restored and occupied the *pargana* with the help of Sawai Jai Singh of Jaipur.

In 1724, Abhay Singh, the heir apparent to the throne of Jodhpur was persuaded while at the imperial court at Delhi, to elevate himself to the throne by murdering his own father. He, therefore, wrote to his brother Bakht Singh suggesting that he should carry this out and promised him Nagaur and 555 villages as a reward. Bakht Singh committed the heinous crime. Abhay Singh succeeded his father as the ruler of Marwar and was formally recognised by Muhammad Shah, who included Nagaur in his *sanad*. Abhay Singh at once took Nagaur from Indar Singh and subsequently made it over to the parricide Bakht Singh.

Abhay Singh was succeeded by his son Ram Singh in 1730. But his uncle Bakht Singh, who held Nagaur contested for the throne and after several battles forced Ram Singh to leave Marwar in 1752. But Bakht Singh met his death shortly and his son Bijay Singh was installed as Maharaja at Maroth (now in Nagaur district). But he had hardly received the homage of his people when he was called upon to encounter Ram Singh, who was advancing with an army assisted by the Marathas. A desperate battle was fought on the plains of Merta in about 1754. During the battle a ruse was played by the enemy to the effect that Bijay Singh had been killed and was lying in the field. The Jodhpur army retired with panic but Bijay Singh escaped to Nagaur, though, with great difficulty.

After this victory, other strongholds also fell and the star of Ram Singh seemed to be rising high. Bijay Singh held out gallantly in Nagaur but all other towns except Jodhpur, Jalor, Siwana and Phalodi were captured by Ram Singh. At this juncture, Bijay Singh got Jai Appa assassinated. The siege of Nagaur continued for some time, but a compromise was reached by which the Marathas abandoned the cause of Ram Singh and received the fort and district of Ajmer from the Rathors and also a promise for a fixed triennial tribute. Ram Singh contented himself with the Sambhar territory where he resided till his death in 1772.

Bijay Singh enjoyed no peace for some time because the Marathas continued their affrays from Ajmer. But he soon raised a mercenary force

to serve as guards for the capital and got some of the turbulent chieftains murdered so as to end the intrigues against him. He was able to restore law and order in the State and the territory enjoyed prosperity for nearly two decades. In 1787, he was able to recover Ajmer from the Marathas. But in 1790, Sindhia defeated the Rajputs in the murderous engagement at Patan (in Jaipur State) on the 20th June and at Merta on the 10th or 12th September. He imposed a fine of sixty lakhs of rupees on Jodhpur and recovered Ajmer which was thus lost for ever to the Rathors.

Bijay Singh died in 1793 leaving six sons, the eldest of whom was Zalim Singh. But the gadi was seized by a grandson, named Bhim Singh who ruled for a decade (1793-1803). He was succeeded by his cousin Man Singh (1803-43). Two important events occurred during his reign, (i) the internal disputes regarding the succession of Dhonkal Singh, a supposed posthumous son of late Maharaja Bhim Singh and, (ii) a disastrous war with Jaipur for the hand of Udaipur princess named Krishna Kumari. In the latter case, the Jaipur ruler Jagat Singh sought help from Amir Khan the freebooter, who besieged Man Singh in his capital. The town was soon captured and plundered but the fort held out and the protracted defence depleted the Jaipur treasury. Meanwhile, Man Singh was able to persuade Amir Khan through bribe to defect to his side and attack the Jaipur army. Jagat Singh raised the siege (1806) and retreated to Jaipur but his army was attacked by the chieftains of Kuchaman, Ahor, Jalor and Nimaj on the joint frontiers of Jaipur and Jodhpur. The Jaipur army was defeated and lost the entire booty.

This episode over, Man Singh again requisitioned the services of Amir Khan with a promise of a large reward for subduing the nobles who espoused the cause of the pretender Dhonkal Singh. Amir Khan, in order to accomplish it, treacherously massacred forty-two of them at Nagaur in 1808 A.D. and sent the severed heads of the most distinguished of them to Man Singh. At this time an expedition was led against Bikaner ruler for taking sides with Dhonkal Singh. The encounter took place at Bapri in which the Bikaner army lost and retreated. Consequently, Bikaner was compelled to pay the price of joining the confederacy against Man Singh.

Amir Khan was now all powerful in Marwar. He plundered Nagaur and left a garrison there. He then proceeded to Jodhpur where he received ten lakhs of rupees, two large towns, and one hundred rupees daily as table-money. He partitioned the district of Merta among his followers and garrisoned Nawa, thus commanding the Sambhar lake. In 1814, he renewed his plundering raids and at the instance of the disgruntled

nobles, murdered the Dewan of the State and the head of a religious sect in the State. Horrified at such actions, Man Singh pretended insanity, abandoned all powers to the Naths (of which sect the head was murdered by Amir Khan) and became recluse. Amir Khan remained in the State till 1817 when he withdrew after plundering the treasury and Chhatar Singh, the only son of Man Singh assumed the regency.

MODERN PERIOD

Although an alliance was proposed by the British Government to the Marwar ruler as far back as 1803, it did not materialize owing to the differences with regard to terms and conditions. Meanwhile the Jodhpur ruler went to the assistance of Holkar and the proposals were not renewed. When a war against the Pindaris was declared the British Government again negotiated with the ruler of Jodhpur in January 1813, to sign a treaty accepting British protection, and pay a stipulated amount as tribute and send a contingent of troops whenever required. Chhatar Singh died shortly after the conclusion of the treaty and his father, Man Singh, who had been feigning insanity so far, resumed the reigns of the Government again.

Man Singh suppressed the nobles who were hostile to him during his pretended imbecility, but the British Government interfered and in 1824 he had to restore the confiscated estates of some of them. The nobles again rebelled in 1827 and formed a confederacy in Jaipur territory to espouse the cause of Dhonkal Singh, the pretender to the throne of Marwar. Man Singh sought British help as envisaged in the treaty of 1818 to quell the rebellion but the latter regarded this uprising as an internal affair and refused to interfere. At the same time they directed Jaipur ruler in whose territory the conspiracy was formed to stop in his State such activities as were prejudicial to the terms of agreement. This had the desired effect and the confederacy broke up. However, the relations between the British Government and the Jodhpur ruler remained strained¹ and worsened in 1839, when the British Government sent a force to Jodhpur with a view to end the maladministration and to put down the insurrections and disaffection prevailing in the State. The city of Jodhpur remained for five months in occupation of the British force which was withdrawn only on obtaining an assurance of future good government from Man Singh. Man Singh died in 1843 leaving no son, natural or adopted, and Takht Singh, was installed on the gadi of Marwar.

1. Erskine, K.D., *op. cit.*, pp. 72-73.

It was during Takht Singh's reign that the State witnessed the upheaval of 1857 and the Thakur of Alaniyawas (in the present district of Nagaur) rose up in arms and joined the chief of Auwa against the British. The Jodhpur ruler, however, sided with the British Government and sent troops to suppress them. Singhvi Kushal Raj was sent to Parvatsar and Maroth with troops to subdue the insurgents in that area¹. He besieged Gular whose Thakur had anti-British inclinations, and took it. Kushal Raj was then posted at Alaniyawas but later on he was despatched to Ajmer to protect the British interests there. In lieu of the services which the ruler of Jodhpur rendered and the loyalty displayed throughout the course of upheaval, he was, in 1862, granted the *sanad* of right of adoption. Four years later, he agreed to cede lands for railway purposes to the British Government and granted certain other privileges. In 1868, an extradition treaty with the British Government was concluded.

However, the relations between the ruler and his nobles remained strained and this gave the British Government a pretext to interfere. Takht Singh was threatened by the British Government that if he did not run his government in accordance with their (British government) advice, he would be deprived of all ruling powers for the rest of his life. Hence, under duress, he signed an agreement to abide by the advice of the British Government in running the administration of his State. In 1870, he leased the Jodhpur portion of the Sambhar lake to the British Government.

On the occasion of the durbar held by Lord Mayo in October, 1870 at Ajmer, Maharaja Takht Singh raised a point of precedence which remained unsettled and consequently he did not attend the function. As a result, he was directed to leave Ajmer the following morning at day break.

Zorawar Singh, the second son of Takht Singh occupied in 1872 the town and the fort of Nagaur in the hope of establishing by force of arms his claim to the gadi. But he was put down without bloodshed and forced to move to Ajmer.

The successors of Takht Singh to the gadi of Marwar were Jaswant Singh II, Sardar Singh, Sumair Singh and Umaid Singh. It was during the rule of Umaid Singh, the second son of Sardar Singh that Lok Parishad was established in the State to fight for political freedom. Several agitations were launched in the State by the Lok Parishad and the Kisan Sabha, against the forced labour (*begar*) and oppressive cesses. In this district

1. Khadgawat, N.R., *Rajasthan's Role in the Struggle of 1857*, Jaipur (1957), p. 178.

too, the atmosphere was surcharged with tension against the oppressive cesses and the high-handedness of the jagirdars. A mass meeting was called at Dabra, now in Didwana tahsil, on the 13th of March, 1947 by the leaders of the Lok Parishad and the Kisan Sabha. However, before the meeting could be held, an engagement took place between the followers of the jagirdars and the cultivators, resulting in fatal casualties on both the sides.

Maharaja Umaid Singh died in June 1947 and was succeeded by Hanuwant Singh. India attained Independence on the 15th of August, 1947 and a popular ministry was installed at Jodhpur under the aegis of the ruler. In 1949, the State of Jodhpur merged with the United States of Greater Rajasthan and the present district of Nagaur was brought into existence.

CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

POPULATION

At the Census of 1961 the population of the district was 9,34,948 of which 4,80,586 were males and 4,54,362 females. It comprised of four sub-divisions and eight tahsils. The tahsil-wise population of the district was as under¹ :

Sub-division	Tahsil	Population		
		Persons	Males	Females
Didwana		195,559	99,158	96,401
	Didwana	115,196	58,625	56,571
	Ladnun	80,363	40,533	39,830
Merta		227,367	117,683	109,684
	Degana	105,331	54,713	50,618
	Merta	122,036	62,970	59,066
Nagaur		222,496	114,220	108,276
	Jayal	68,371	34,445	33,926
	Nagaur	154,125	79,775	74,350
Parvatsar		289,526	149,525	140,001
	Nawa	121,167	62,532	58,635
	Parvatsar	168,359	86,993	81,366

Growth of population

From 1901 to 1961, the population of the district has increased only by 78.35 per cent, as compared to 95.8 per cent for the State and 85.94 per cent for the entire country over the same period. The growth in the urban areas was more (100.39 per cent) than in the rural areas (95.49

1. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables (1964)*, p. 29.

per cent) of the district. To facilitate comparison of the decennial variations of its population vis-a-vis that of the State and the country, the population figures at each census, since 1901 are tabulated below :

Census year	Nagaur District		Percentage decade variation	
	Persons ¹	Percentage decade variation ²	Rajasthan ³	India ⁴
1901	524,217	—	—	—
1911	559,111	+ 6.66	+ 6.70	+ 5.73
1921	487,462	-12.81	- 6.29	- 0.31
1931	568,434	+16.61	+14.14	+11.01
1941	656,377	+15.47	+18.01	+14.22
1951	763,829	+16.37	+15.20	+13.31
1961	934,948	+22.40	+26.20	+21.50

It will be seen from the above table that there has been an increase in population during all these years, save for the 1911-1921 decade when the population declined primarily because of epidemics such as influenza, plague, small-pox and cholera.

Density

The density of population per square of mile was 111 persons in 1951 while in 1961 Census, it was 137 persons as compared to 153 for the State and 373 for the country. It was lower in rural areas (122) than the district average (137), while in urban areas it was as high as 832. The highest concentration of rural population was in Parvatsar tahsil. The tahsilwise density of rural and urban population in the 1961 Census was as under :

Tahsil	Town	Density of population per sq. mile ⁵		
		Total	Rural	Urban
1	2	3	4	5
Ladnun		166	123	1,007
	Ladnun	—	—	1,007

1. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables* (1964), p. 96.
2. *ibid.*
3. *ibid.*, p. 95.
4. *Census of India, Paper No. 1 of 1962. 1961 Census, Final Population Totals* (Publications Division, Government of India, Delhi, 1962), p. 9.
5. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables* (1964), p. 29.

1	2	3	4	5
Didwana		180	165	533
	Didwana	—	—	533
Jayal		85	85	—
Nagaur		85	72	1,970
	Nagaur	—	—	1,970
Nawa		205	172	932
	Kuchaman	—	—	1,291
	Nawa	—	—	608
Degana		143	143	—
Parvatsar		196	176	785
	Makrana	—	—	1,348
	Parvatsar	—	—	324
Merta		138	127	439
	Merta	—	—	439
Nagaur district		137	122	832
Rajasthan State ¹		153	130	1,548
India ²		373	—	—

Sex Ratio

The sex ratio (number of females per 1000 males) according to 1961 Census, was 945 as against 908 in the State as a whole. It was better in the rural areas (949) than in the urban 920. The tendency of the ratio to increase has been noticeable since 1901, except on two occasions in 1921 and 1941 when it fell to 900 and 912 respectively from the previous years' count.

Age structure

According to the 1961 Census, the largest number of people (15.52 per cent), both male and female, were in the age group of 0-4 years. This was followed by the age of 5-9 (14.67 per cent), 10-14 (12.46 per cent), 35-44 (10.10 per cent), 45-59 (9.60 per cent), 20-24 (8.66 per cent), 25-29 (8.26 per cent), 15-19 (8.01 per cent), 30-34 (6.95 per cent) and 60 years

1. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-A, General Population Tables* (1964), p. 19.

2. *Census of India, Paper No. 1 of 1962, 1961 Census, Final Population Totals*, p. 5.

and over (5.68 per cent). 0.09 per cent of the population did not state the age during the enumeration. Except in the age groups of 20-24 and 60 and over, where females predominated in other cases, the males outnumbered the females. In the single year age returns, the largest number of persons were found to be of 30 years and the smallest of two years.

There were 108 centenarians in the district, 39 males and 69 females, during the 1961 Census. The oldest man was aged 125 years and the oldest woman 115 years.

Rural and Urban Population

According to 1961 Census, 87.09 per cent (8,14,291) of the population lived in villages and 12.91 per cent (120,657) constituted the urban population of the district. For Rajasthan, these percentages were 83.72 and 16.28 respectively.

In the last decade (1951-1961), the rural population slightly increased. The Census of 1951 had recorded the rural and urban percentages as 86.96 and 13.04 respectively.

The number of inhabited villages has risen during the decade from 1,188 in 1951 to 1,199 in 1961. The number of towns, however, has remained constant during the decade, namely eight. Mundwa, which enjoyed the status of a town since 1901 was dropped from the list of towns in 1961 and Parvatsar was added instead. The only other place which enjoyed the status of a town in the past (1901), is Kuchera but it is no longer classified as such.

Migration and Immigration

According to 1961 Census, out of the total population of the district (9,34,948), 92.75 per cent or 8,68,157 were born in the district, 6.60 per cent or 61,728 were born in other districts of the State; 0.33 per cent or 3,111 were born in other parts of India and the rest come from other countries. Of those born outside India, the majority, 645, came from Pakistan while the migration from Nepal, Africa and Burma were respectively 27; 1 and 1. The number of unclassified persons was 1,278.

Displaced Persons

According to the Census of 1951 the number of displaced persons in the district was 262 (159 males and 103 females) only and all of them had come from West Pakistan. Of these 186 came to the district in 1947,

60 in 1948 and 16 in 1949. Among them 42.7 per cent (112), were employed in 'Other Services and Miscellaneous Sources', 33.2 per cent (87) were engaged as industrialists, 17.6 per cent or 46 were traders and 3 per cent or 8 persons were employed in transport industries, while those engaged in the cultivation of land owned or un-owned by them, were 9 or 3.5 per cent.

Language

According to 1961 Census, the principal language of the district was Rajasthani (including all dialects) which was spoken by 8,20,177 persons or 87.72 per cent of the population. Classifying dialect-wise, Marwari was spoken by 5,83,270, Shekhawati by 87, Dhundhari by 47, Mewari by eight and Malvi by one. The second numerically large group (62,282) was of those who spoke Khariboli and accounted for 6.66 per cent. The other groups were : Urdu (46,381 or 4.96 per cent), Sindhi (4,712 or 0.50 per cent), Punjabi (1,171 or 0.13 per cent) and Gujarati (104 or 0.01 per cent). The remaining 0.2 per cent of the population declared English, Bengali, Telugu, Marathi, Arabic, Malayalam, Kannada, Kashmiri and Nepali as their mother tongue. It is significant that after 1931, no person mentioned Bhili as his mother tongue in the district.

Bilingualism

In the Census of 1961 out of the total population of 9,34,948 persons, only 18,069 were shown to be speaking a language subsidiary to their mother tongue. Of the subsidiary languages, more important numerically are English, Hindi and Urdu. The table given in Appendix I shows the number of persons who speak one or more languages subsidiary to their mother tongue.

RELIGIOUS AND SOCIAL GROUPS

In the Census of 1961, a vast majority of the people, 89.05 per cent, were classified as Hindus. Muslims formed the second biggest group, being 9.12 per cent, while the Jains, Christians and Sikhs were returned in the descending order of 1.71, 0.10 and 0.02 per cent respectively. Their tahsil-wise distribution in the district is as under :

Tahsil	Buddhist	Christians	Hindus	Jains	Muslims	Sikhs	Others & those who did not state religion
Ladnun	—	6	66,203	4,594	9,537	4	19

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Didwana	—	5	98,889	536	15,766	—	—
Jayal	—	4	63,388	645	4,333	1	—
Nagaur	—	604	1,27,359	3,847	22,192	123	—
Nawa	—	30	1,12,950	2,597	5,586	4	—
Degana	6	3	99,675	660	4,983	4	—
Parvatsar	3	129	1,52,665	1,035	14,467	14	46
Merta	—	131	1,11,448	2,036	8,412	9	—

Hindus

BRAHMANS—Their hereditary occupation is to officiate at important ceremonies, whether religious or spiritual. But in the changing circumstances and with the advantage of their having good education, they have also taken up other professions. Those who are engaged in the hereditary profession are consulted to advise on fixing the auspicious dates for marriage, journeys and other important occasions.

The Brahmans are found throughout the district, their principal sub-castes are the Shrimalis, the Sanchoras, the Pushkarnas, the Chhanniyatis and the Purohits.

SHRIMALIS—They are said to have come from Shrimal and consequently take their name from that town, now called Bhinmal. They have two main groups or *Amnayas*, the Marwari and the Mewari. They have fourteen exogamous sects or *gotras*, each having one deity or *Kuladevi*. The Shrimalis are mostly the worshippers of God Shiva. In the past they accepted from other castes only pure milk, confectionery or water brought in *tumbis* (gourds) or in their own *lotas* (pots), and their females observed purdah. But these practices are now disappearing. By occupation they are mainly priests but traders and money-lenders on a small scale.

SANCHORAS—They take their name from the town of Sanchor, and belong to the Vallabhacharya sect. Like the Shrimalis, they too are very strict in the matter of acceptance of food and water. They enjoy the reputation of being expert cooks and more or less monopolise their profession on the occasion of the great *Annakut* festival at the holy shrine of Nathdwara, the centre of Vallabhacharya sect.

PUSHKARNA—The Pushkarnas are said to have got their name from the lake of Pushkar near Ajmer. Another tradition ascribes their origin from Pokaran in Jaisalmer district. They have the same fourteen *gotras* as the Shrimalis and eighty four exogamous clans, some being hypergamous, of which the most notable are the Vyas, the Kalla, the Bohra, the Purohit and the Upadhyaya. The Pushkarnas are generally tall and athletic and are in the habit of chewing tobacco. Government service is their main occupation. All their marriages usually take place on one and the same day in the year, and such is the community cohesion that they become *bhadra* i. e. go into mourning with face and head clean shaved, (excepting the scalp-loom) even on the death of a remote kinsman.

CHHANNIYATIS—They comprise six endogamous sects of the Panch Gaur Brahmans, said to have been fused, but with partial success, into one community by Maharaja Sawai Jai Singh II of Jaipur in the early part of the eighteenth century in commemoration of his so called *Asvamedha Yajna* or horse-sacrifice. They can eat together but do not inter-marry. The six divisions are (i) the Dahima or Dadhicha, a cultured class whose original seat was at Goth Manglod in Nagaur; (ii) the Gujar Gaur who claim descent from the sage Gautam; (iii) the Parik or Pareek, (iv) the Khandelwal, who are said to have come from Khandela in Sikar, and are mostly agriculturists; (v) the Sarsut or Saraswat (who are called so after *Saraswati*, the Hindu *Minerva*) whose ancestors are supposed to have accompanied Rao Sihaji from Kanauj; (vi) the Gaur who are not very numerous.

PUROHITS—The Purohits or Rajgurus are numerically stronger than any of the other main divisions of Brahmans. They held extensive tracts of land on *Sasan* tenure during princely rule and are hereditary priests and matchmakers to the Rajputs, from whom (as well as from Banias) they accept food. They till their own lands, with the assistance of their womenfolk. A section of them known as Natrayat has lost caste, for having recognised *natra* or widow marriage.

RAJPUTS—The district has a sprinkling of all the three important divisions of Rajputs, namely, those belonging to the solar race, the lunar race and the *agniculas* or the fire born. The Rathors, the Kachawahas and the Sesodias, belong to the solar group and the Bhatias to lunar, while the Chauhans, the Panwars, the Parihars and the Solankis claim their descent from the *agniculas*. The Rathor clan comprises more than one hundred septs, the chief of which are Mertia, Jodha, Udawat, Champawat,

Kumpawat, Karnot, Jetawat and Karamsot. The chief septs of the Kachawahs found in this district are Shekhawat, Naruka and Rajawat; of the Sesodias, Ranawat, Chondawat, Shaktawat and Ahariya; of the Bhatīs, Jaisu and Raolot; of the Chauhans, Deora, Hara, Sonigara, Nadola, Purbia and Sanchora; of the Panwars, Sodha, Sankhla, Bhayal, Kabas and Derwals. Most of the area of this district was covered under jagir during the princely regime and there were six prominent jagirs held by important nobles namely of Kheenwsar (Nagaur tahsil), Riyan (Merta tahsil), Kuchaman (Nawa tahsil), Boodsu and Badoo (Parvatsar tahsil) and Ladnun. (Ladnun tahsil). In addition to the nobles of the above places, there were small Jagirdars and *Bhomias* also.

JATS—The Jats are strong in built and hardworking. They are the best cultivators not only in this district but throughout Rajasthan, famed for their diligence in improving the land. They are assisted in their work in the fields by their women and children. As the saying goes “the Jat’s baby has a plough-handle for plaything”. They are usually vegetarians, but have no serious objection to a meat diet. By religious conviction they are Vaishnavas (the devotees of God Vishnu) as well as Shaivites, worship the plough and the cow, and are served by Chhanniyat Brahmans. Socially they take the lead among the widow marrying castes. Polygamy is permissible but seldom practised. A man may not marry his wife’s sister while his wife is alive; early marriages are favoured though generally they marry late; and divorce is permitted simply by an announcement in the presence of the caste members but is seldom resorted to. Most of Jats wear round their neck a silver charm depicting Ramdeoiji or Pabuji or Tejaji on horseback with his sword drawn and a snake biting him on the tongue. Teja was a Jat of Kharnal (16 km. west of Mundwa by *Katcha* road) in Nagaur, who after a fight with the cattle-lifting Mers, died from the bite of a snake. He is held in such reverence that most of the Jats believe that if a man bitten by a snake tie a cord round his right foot and repeat the name of Tejaji, he will assuredly recover. The Parvatsar Cattle Fair is held every year in memory of the death of Tejaji.

BISHNOIS—They are believed mainly to be Jats originally who derive their present name from the twenty-nine (*Bis-nau*) canons of conduct which they avowed at the instance of a Panwar Rajput ascetic named Jambha, towards the end of the fifteenth century. The Muhammadans were in power at Nagaur at this time who did not approve of Jambha starting a new religion and asked him to include some of their tenets which he did. The Bishnois form a distinct endogamous caste. They are strict vegetarians

teetotallers and non-smokers. Their chief occupation is agriculture, but they also keep large herds of camels.

Jains

MAHAJANS—Amongst the Mahajans or Banias, a sizable number is of Jains. Their principal divisions existing in this district are : Oswal, Maheshwari, Porwal, Saravagi and Agarwal.

OSWALS—They take their name from the town of Osi or Osian situated to the north of Jodhpur and are said to be descendants of Rajputs of different clans who were converted to Jainism in the second century. The Oswals are mostly traders and money-lenders, but some of them are employed in the government service and some have taken to the legal profession. The chief septs among the Oswals are Mohnot, Bhandari, Modi, Singhi, Lodha and Mohta.

MAHESHWARIS—The Maheshwaris also trace their descent from Rajputs, chiefly belonging to the Chauhan, Parihar and Solanki clans. The name is said to have been derived from Mahadeo or Mahesh in whom they profess their faith. They comprise seventy-two exogamous sections and all of them abstain from the use of liquor and meat, onions and garlic. They are by occupation traders, contractors and bankers and some of them have their agencies in the remotest parts of India.

PORWALS—They trace their origin from the Rajputs of Patan in Gujarat who embraced Jainism. According to others, they derive their name from Pur, an ancient town in Bhilwara district. They may inter-dine but do not inter-marry with Oswals.

SARAOGIS—The Saraogis are, like the Porwals, all Jains; and comprise eighty-four sections. They are very strict in their religious observations, and have an unusual regard for the sanctity of animal life and do not eat or inter-marry with the Oswals. Brahmans do not officiate at their weddings, but they employ priests of their own caste. They forbid use of ivory bracelets by their women, take their evening meal before sunset, burn no fuel without first washing it, and do not use lamp at night for fear of causing injury to insects. These practices, however, are waning due to changed circumstances.

AGARWALS—The Agarwals trace their origin to Raja Agar Sen, whose capital was at Agroha in the Punjab. They have 17½ clans. The story runs that Agar Sen had seventeen sons and in order to fulfil his desire of

marrying them to the eighteen daughters of Raja named Basak, or Vasuki of the Nag or serpent clan, the eighteenth son was formed out of half the body of the eldest, and hence the number $17\frac{1}{2}$ of their clans, the half section may eat but not inter-marry with the others. Most of the Agarwals are engaged in trade and enjoy a general reputation of being enterprising. They are found plying their trade in almost all big cities.

Kayasthas

Kayasthas are Hindus and derive their origin from Chitruguptaji Maharaj. The Mathur sept of Kayasthas is most numerous in this district. They are also called Pancholis. They are mainly employed in the government service. Most of the Kayasthas were hereditary *Kanungos* and held land on rent free grant on *Inam* but it was cultivated by sub-tenants. They are worshippers of the Jogmaya.

Rebaris

The Rebaris, also called Raikas, are the breeders of sheep, goat and camels. They assert that their ancestor was brought into existence by Mahadeo (God Shiva), in order to take care of the first camel which was created by Parvati for her amusement. They worship Pabuji. Their women wear ivory bangles from shoulder to wrist. They are conspicuous by their high top hair-do style which is managed by inserting a wooden block or a rolled cloth. Among the Rebaris, the Samaria or descendants of Samar, alone claim pure blood extraction, while others comprise a combination of several Rajput tribes, such as the section known as Parihar which has five sub-divisions named after the sons of Nahar Rao, the Raja of Mandor.

Others

The only other social groups deserving mention are the *Khatris* or carpenters, the *Lohars* or black-smiths, the *Sunars* or gold-smiths and the *Nais* who besides being barbers, play an important role in the social life. They are hereditary match-makers and their presence is unavoidable on ceremonial occasions.

Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

SCHEDULED CASTE—This social group, which is most numerous in the district, is of recent origin and is recognised by the Indian Constitution as deserving of special privileges. The group consists of socially down-trodden and economically backward sections of the society. The special

privileges conferred on them by the Government include matters relating to education, employment, housing, government aid, grants etc. According to 1961 Census the members of Scheduled Castes numbered 163, 169 or 17.4 per cent of the total population of the district. The largest group amongst them consisted of Chamar, Bhambhi, Jatav, Jatia, Mochi, Raidas, Raigar or Ramdasia their number being 50,898. They work as carriers of animal carcass, tanners, day labourers, village menials and agriculturists. Other large groups are formed by Balais, Meghwals, Bawarias and Thories. The break-up of these various groups of the Scheduled Castes during the 1961 Census is given in Appendix II.

The Thories, Bagris, Bawarias and Sansis used to indulge in various crimes in the past and were therefore classified by the Marwar State as criminal tribes. A department was also established by Jodhpur State to rehabilitate them on land.

SCHEDULED TRIBE—The members of Scheduled Tribes numbered 2879 during the 1961 Census and the most numerous among these were Minas (1392) and Bhils (368). Of the rest, 16 were Garasias (excluding the Rajput Garasias) and the rest were unclassified. The Minas and Bhils were categorised as criminal tribes by the erstwhile Jodhpur State and efforts were made to rehabilitate them. They are now engaged in agricultural pursuits.

The members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are all Hindus.

Muslims

They form the second largest religious group in the district and are most numerous in Nagaur, Didwana and Parvatsar tahsils. Sheikh and Pathan are the two principal divisions among them. Kaimkhanis are also found in certain areas which are adjacent to Shekhawati. A majority of the Muslims are engaged in the tie and dye work, dyeing and block printing, iron-smithy, agency of motor-parts and cycle repairing.

SOCIAL LIFE

Property and Inheritance

JOINT FAMILY—Joint family system among the Hindus was a rule of life in the past but it is now fast disintegrating under economic and social pressure. With the changed circumstances, its benefits are dwindling and disadvantages multiplying with the result that it is prevalent only

among such classes as the traders and cultivators where every member can contribute his mite to the family economic pool. A joint family consists of all persons lineally descended from a common ancestor. All the earning members of the family contribute to the common pool according to their capacity and are entitled to get what they need. The right to property and inheritance after the death of a member of the family, in case of partition of estates, are governed by the Hindu law according to which males were entitled to a share, the females only to a maintenance allowance. After passing of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956 the females are also now entitled to get a full share. The jagirdars and *muafidars* were formerly governed by the rule of primogeniture according to which the eldest son inherited the ancestral estate while the younger sons got only maintenance allowance. But with the abolition of jagirs they have also been brought under the general law.

ADOPTION—Among the Hindus, a male issue is considered a religious necessity for the performance of the last rites at the death of the parents without which it is believed, their souls suffer in endless agony with no hope of salvation. So in the absence of a natural son, one has to adopt one. The custom is known as *god-lena* (*god*—lap and *lena* to receive in). The choice of the would-be adopted is exercised in consultation with the wife and preference in selection is generally given to the close agnates. The ceremony, *dattaka hom*, takes place on an auspicious day with the family priest presiding in the presence of the members of the caste or the community. The adoption is confirmed by executions and registration of a deed with the court. The adopted son enjoys all the legal, social and religious rights and is subject to all the obligations of a natural son of the adoptive parents. After adoption, the adopted son severs all his connections in the rights and liabilities with his natural parents.

The custom of adoption is also prevalent among the Muslims. The issueless father selects a boy, as far possible, from the closest relation on the male side. The ceremony is solemnised in presence of the members of the community and the document is later registered in the court.

Marriages and Morals

POLYGAMY—Polygamy is, speaking generally, on the wane and is resorted to only when the former wife is (1) barren or (2) too ill to attend house keeping or (3) immoral or (4) when acrimonious relations exist between the couple or (5) when the father, owing to some reasons, does not send his daughter to her husbands' house or (6) if the husband is well-to-do, or as (7) among Kaim Khanis a nearest widowed lady who is not

allowed to go to another family and is kept as a *Nikata* wife, in spite of the fact that the man who keeps her as such, has already one or more wives. Sometimes a married lady also marries other man in the life time of the former husband whom she divorces. But such cases are rare.

Among the Hindus, polygamy is practised mostly among the backward sections of the society and the Scheduled Castes. The Muslims are allowed by law to keep four wives at a time but economic considerations weigh high and most of them are monogamous, some bigamous and very few polygamous.

RESTRICTIONS ON MARRIAGE—Marriages are arranged in one's own caste by the parents or in their absence, by other older members of the family. Enquiries are made about the *gotras*, and if both the contracting parties belong to the same *gotra*, the marriage is avoided. Inter-caste marriages are seldom resorted as also registered marriages. Such marriages rouse resentment among the members of the caste and are discouraged as they are believed to be based on extraneous considerations detrimental to caste cohesion. Among the Muslims, marriage between the cousins is very common.

EARLY MARRIAGE—During the 1961 Census it was discovered that out of the total population of 9,34,948 of the district, 409,542 were returned as 'never married', of whom 282,297 were below the age of nine and 81,861 between the ages of ten and fourteen. Thus, the number of those who never married after the age of 14, was 45,384. From the same source, it is found that nobody was married below the age of nine and that the number of those married between the ages of ten and fourteen was 34,072. This would mean that the lowest age of marriage varies from ten to fourteen years. Analysing the 10-14 age group for Scheduled Castes, it was found that the number of married persons was 12,102 while the number for Scheduled Tribes for similar age-group was 198. It is apparent that child marriage was the general rule in the past but now it is dwindling partly because of the law on the subject and partly because of the spread of education.

MARRIAGE CUSTOMS—Among the Hindus, a ceremony known as *Sagai* or betrothal takes place prior to the marriage. This is arranged with the consent of the parents who take into consideration such factors as the age of the girl and the boy and the status of the family. Their horoscopes must also tally before the match is confirmed. Formerly the practice was to perform this ceremony many years before the actual marriage but now

the time between the two ceremonies is minimised and varies between a week to a year or two. The betrothal ceremony is held at the house of the bride groom's father attended by the relatives and under the guidance of the family priests. The ladies of the family chant songs appropriate for the occasion and distribute to those present *patashies*. Sweets, fruits, coconuts and some clothes with *patashies* are then sent to the girl's house under the custom of *Pehraoni*. The date of marriage is fixed in due course after consulting the family priest and the intimation is sent to the father of the boy on a red coloured paper (*lagna patrika*), requesting him to come with the marriage party on the appointed day of the marriage, the parents of the boy and the girl send invitation to their relatives, on coloured papers known as *kumkum patrika*. Usually a picture of Ganesh, the god of prosperity is superimposed on it and some couplets invoking his blessings for the couple. *Patrikas* are however, being replaced by decorated printed wedding cards which are sent by the wealthy and educated people in the urban areas. At the same time, a ceremony known as *Vinayak* is performed, wherein the deity Ganesh is worshipped and his blessings are invoked for the successful termination of the marriage functions.

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Bracelets which contain rings of iron and lac (called *Kankan dora*) are at this time put around the wrists of the bride-groom and the bride, which are removed by them at the conclusion of the whole ceremony. On the same day, the ladies of the house accompanied by the ladies of relatives and neighbours, dressed in gala attire go in a procession, preceded by a band or a drum, singing songs suitable to the occasion to the family potter's house, to worship the potter's wheel for blessing the new couple with as many off-springs as the earthen pots produced by him. The function is concluded with a dance by the ladies who return with the same grandeur to the bridegroom or bride's house, balancing on their heads a pair of new earthen pots. In the evening, all the members of the caste, or in the case of those less affluent, only the close relatives are invited to a feast in which usually *lapsi* is served. On the same day, another ceremony called *pithi* is performed, in which the *pithi*, a preparation of barley flour or gram flour mixed with scented oil, water and turmeric, is massaged on the body of the bride and the bride-groom.

The bridegroom, and the bride, are adorned as richly as the resources of the families permit. A Rajput bridegroom wears red embroidered with gold and a Brahman or a Mahajan, a long white cloth, with a broad red silk border wrapped round the waist and tucked up between the legs and sometimes a coloured *payjama*. Over this, he wears a red or yellow body-coat, waistband and scarf of the same colour. His turban

must be crimson on which are tied along narrow embroidered pieces called *Pachevari* or silver or gold threads and in the turban are stuck what are called a *turri* and *kalangi*. In a few urban areas, the usual costumes of the bride-groom consist of a pantaloons, a coat, a neck-tie and turban. The bridegroom wears on his neck some ornament, like a necklace of gold or of pearls. The bride wears a coloured, silk bodice and a red or yellow silk petti-coat, and over these a very long white silk scarf, bordered and spotted with red. It is wrapped round the waist and then passed over the shoulders and head only forming its covering. On this occasion, even among the poorer classes, necklaces of gold and coral beads strung alternately, borrowed or even hired, are worn.

Before starting for the marriage ceremony, the bridegroom imitates the sucking of the breasts of his mother, a ritual to remind the boy of his duty to be true to his mother's milk on attaining youth and assuming a house-holder's responsibility and never to betray it or bring disgrace to it. The practice, however, is on the decline and the ritual is symbolically performed by merely touching the breasts. The *barat* or the marriage party consists of the relatives and friends of the bride-groom and his father. It is welcomed on arrival by the ladies of the bride's family who come out with a *kalash* or an earthen pot in poor families, and with gold and silver pots in families that are rich. In the *kalash* the father of the bridegroom puts some cash. The ceremony of *Bindani-ko Tel-Charhana* which consists of rubbing oil on the bride is performed on the actual day of marriage or a day before. This is a very important ceremony and a girl on whom this ceremony has been performed as a common saying goes, under any circumstances has to be married off "*Triya Tel Hamir Huth Chade na Duji Bar*".

Over the door of the bride's dwelling, is hung a garland of leaves, which the bridegroom if of the warrior class, must bring down with his lance or sword, but which in other cases is allowed to remain till it withers and drops down from decay. At some places and among some communities the door of the brides' house is decorated with a *toran*, or a decorated wooden arch, which is touched by the bridegroom with his sword before he dismounts the mare.

The bridegroom is then received by the mother of the bride, who puts a *tilak* on his forehead, performs *arti*, and then conducts him to the nuptial *mundup*. It is here that the *Kanya-dan* (i.e. giving away of the maiden) ceremony is held. The holy fire is kindled symbolically as a divine witness to the nuptial ceremony and also as its sanctifier, and

having deposited a water-pot to the north-east of the fire, the bridegroom offers oblations along with the bride grasping his hand that makes the offering. This is followed by the *Pani Grahana* rite (i. e. holding the hand). The bride now holds her hand while reciting the *mantras* under the direction of the priest. Then the *agni parinayan* ceremony is performed which means walking round the sacred nuptial fire. Three times the bridegroom is led by the bride and then he leads her round. This is followed by the *saptapadi* (seven steps) ceremony which marks the last ritual of wedding which is considered final and irrevocable thereafter. The concluding ceremonies that follow the rite of "seven steps" are (1) *Vida* (the homeward return of the bridegroom with the bride in a procession and (2) *Vadhupravesha* (the ceremonial reception) of the bride into her husband's house. A ritualistic closure to the marriage ceremony is provided by the rites of *devakothapana*, whereby the deities that had been invited before the ceremony began, are requested to depart.

The ceremonial rites performed at the time of marriage among the Jains are akin to those mentioned above for the Hindus with minor variations in their performance.

Among the Muslims, the *Mangani* or the betrothal is performed, as in case of the Hindus, some time before the marriage. On this occasion, the father of the boy presents clothes and ornaments for the bride. Next day the parents of the girl send presents for the boy and a *safa* or turban is tied round his head. He bows to his would-be father-in-law and receives some presents from him. *Patashas* and dates are distributed from both the sides on this occasion. A few days later, the boy's father sends sweets, or two to four maunds of *gur*, depending on his status, to the girl's father who distributes it to all the relatives and the members of his community and friends. This constitutes a sort of announcement of the completion of the betrothal to the public and is known as *Ganthe*. It is generally accompanied by a present of ornaments, dry fruits, and sugar candy. The girl's father sends dishes of boiled rice known as *Sakrana* to the bridegroom's father, and the date of marriage is fixed on this day. The intervening days are spent in rejoicing by both the sides. On the day of the marriage the bridegroom puts on apparel presented by the bride's father and the bride is attired in the garments sent by her would-be father-in-law. Wearing a *Sehra* (nuptial garment) the bridegroom goes in a procession from his house to the mosque and after the *Namaz* and offerings to the mosque, he rides to the bride's house where he sits in a *Majlis* outside to enjoy music that has been arranged for him. Verbal permission is obtained from the bride's father for the marriage and two of the relatives

of the bride, along with a Vakil and a witness go to her, administer her the *Kalma* and then the ceremony of *Ijab* and *Kabul* (offer and acceptance) is performed. The amount of *Mehar* is settled and communicated to the *Qazi* who administers the *Kalma* to the bridegroom and then accepts the *Mehar*. Glasses of *Sharbat* or cold drinks, consecrated by the utterance of *Kalma* are then drunk by the newly wedded couple and the relatives shower *Patashas* and dates on them. *Patashas* and dates are also distributed to the relatives and greetings are exchanged. The bridegroom bows to the male and female relatives of the bride and receives some presents from them. He stays at the bride's home during the night and the next day relatives of both the sides are sumptuously feasted. The farewell ceremony comes off in the evening when dowry consisting of ornaments, utensils, clothes, beddings, etc. is given to the couple by the bride's parents and relatives. On reaching home, the young couple faces the sisters of the bridegroom who stand at the door as in the case of the Hindu and permit entrance after the bridegroom or his mother cajoles them with valuable presents.

Next day the bride returns to her father's house for a day or two and then returns to the bridegroom's house. For four consecutive Fridays after the marriage, the bridegroom takes his meals at the house of the bride's father and the bride goes to the bridegroom's house.

DOWRY—It was customary to demand a certain amount, from the bride's father, before the talks of marriage were finalised and the birth of a daughter, therefore used to be regarded as an occasion for lamentation than for rejoicing. With the spread of education matters have improved considerably but dowry exists even now to some extent. It includes all the articles of daily use in the household and is given by the bride's father to the bridegroom.

WIDOW REMARRIAGE—Brahmans, Rajputs, Khattris, Charans, Kayasthas and Mahajans generally do not permit widow remarriage while others allow such marriages which are known as *Natra*. As a rule no Brahman or priest officiates at the ceremonies which for the most part are restricted to giving the woman *chura* (bracelets) and new clothes, by her new husband and leading her into his house. The children by the first marriage are retained by the family of the deceased husband and the widow forfeits all share in her late husband's estate. Among many of the lower castes the widow is expected to marry her late husband's younger brother, and if she is unwilling to do so and marries some other man, the new husband has to pay compensation to the younger brother of the deceased husband.

DIVORCE—Generally the castes which permit widow remarriage also permit divorce. The Hindu Marriage Act (1955) has legalised divorce among the upper castes also but the requisite condition for the grant of it are so rigid that in practice the Hindu marriage continues to be irrevocable. In the court of the District & Sessions Judge Merta, only 13 cases of divorce were instituted (6 by men and 7 by women) between 1960 and August 1969. Of these only seven were granted.

Rituals among Hindus and Jains

BIRTH—The prospect of the birth of a child is watched with anxiety and eagerness by the family, and the enceinte is treated with great care and tenderness. A ceremony which is known as *Agarni* in Marwari, is performed in the sixth or eighth month of the pregnancy. The members of the caste are invited to a feast and under the guidance of the family priest, the would-be parents perform fire-sacrifice and other ceremonies believed to be conducive to the safe delivery and future welfare of the child. The young wife generally goes to her parents for her first confinement.

CHHATTI—On the sixth day after the birth, lord Bramha (the Creator) is worshipped under the name of *Vidhata*, on the supposition that he records the destiny of the child on that day. Light is kept on burning during the two nights and the women of the house keep awake playing games and singing songs. As a consequence of the child-birth, the mother is considered unclean for ten days and no one except the midwife touches her. The family also observes ceremonial impurity (*Sutak*) during the period. On the tenth day the mother and the child are given a purificatory bath, their clothes are washed and the whole house is cleaned. The lap of the midwife is filled with rice, betel-nut, betel-leaves and fruits, and she is presented with a robe including a bodice and offered money. The mother is purified by sprinkling water mixed with *tulsi* leaves by the family priest and the male members of the family change their sacred threads.

NAMING—The naming ceremony, *Nam Karan* or *Namdheya* is generally held on 10th day (*dashothan*) and is a festive occasion for social gathering. Women neighbours, friends and kinswomen are invited to attend the naming. They drop in, each with some presents, a bodice cloth for the mother and a hood and shirt called *Jhugla topi* for the child. Some old matron of the family then takes the child in her arms and lays it in the cradle bidding the mother repeat in the child's ear its name, which has been settled with common consent beforehand. The mother then loudly

repeats the name in the child's ear ending with a meaningless sound *Kur-r-r*. The function ends with the distribution of *gur* (mollasses) or *patashas* and the guests retire. Widows are not allowed to take part in the cradling. In some classes this ceremony is performed on the very day of the birth and the father of the new born would not even drink water till the name is announced.

The question of naming is important and certain broad rules have to be followed in order that the name may refer to the family, the community and the social class to which the person belongs. The first letter of it, is fixed by the astrologer. In determining the name of the new born, the names of living relatives as well as those of the ancestors must be avoided as to name the child after them is considered disrespectful to them.

Among the higher and middle classes of the Hindus, the names always consist of two words, whereas the lower castes usually have only one in their name.

The first syllable in the name of Mahajans is generally indicative of wealth or jewels e.g. Dhannalal, Laxmi Chand, Daulat Singh, Ratanlal, Motichand, Manakchand, Lalchand, Pannalal. Hindu and Jain girls are often named after some goddess or heroine, or something that denotes beauty, fragrance or delight or is valuable, and the widest range of ideas in nomenclature is naturally found among the higher and more cultured classes.

SURYA PUJA—Among some communities on the tenth day of the birth, the ceremony known as *Surya Puja* is performed when the Sun God along with the tutelary deity of the family is worshipped and the near relatives regale themselves at a feast.

JAL PUJA—The next ceremony is that of *Jal Puja*, commonly known as *Jalwa* which is performed about five or six weeks after the child birth, usually on the 40th day when the mother takes her second bath and is permitted to walk about. This is also attended by sumptuous meals.

ANNA PRASHANA—The *Anna Prashana* (*Anna*—boiled rice, or cooked food and *Prashana*—eating) rite is performed in the sixth month after the birth. The child is now fed with cooked food for the first time. The ceremony starts with the family priest worshipping God Ganesh, the kindling of the sacrificial fire and the performance of *Hom*.

KARNAVEDH—The *Karnavedh* (piercing of the ear-lobes) ceremony which used to be performed on some auspicious day within a year of the birth, is done much later now. The goldsmith of the family first makes correct marks where the ears are to be pierced and passes through each of them a piece of gold wire which he then adeptly twists and shapes into a loose ring. The right ear-lobe is pierced first in the case of a boy and then the left one and in the case of a girl the order is reversed. The custom of getting the girl's ear pierced at three or even five places is getting rarer day by day. If the infant boy is born as a result of some vow undertaken by the parents, his right nostril is bored and a gold ring put into it.

CHUDAKARMA—*Chudakarma* ceremony or the first cutting of the hair on the child's head is a purificatory rite and is also prescribed for the girls. At present the ritual is usually performed in the case of boys and that too among a few classes.

It takes place in the first or fifth year as may be the tradition in the family and is carried out on an auspicious day, at some sacred place and is accompanied by a feast.

UPANAYAN OR JANEU—This ceremony is only meant for the males and is universally performed among the Brahmans though in very few cases also among the Vaishnava Mahajans, Rajputs and the Kayasthas. On this ceremony, the boys are initiated to wear the sacred threads on their bodies. The ceremony is performed in the sixteenth year or so but these days, it is often customary to perform it at the time of marriage.

DEATH CEREMONY—Hindus and Jains cremate their dead as a rule, but ascetics like the *Gosains* and *Sanyasis* and some sects like Jasnathis, Bishnois, the worshippers of Jambhaji, and sometimes Malis who die unmarried are buried. Among the Hindus, the dead infants are also buried. The *antyeshti* or the funeral rites, mark the end of worldly relations of an individual and his entrance into the realm of ancestors. Shortly before the dying man is on last breath, he is made to lie down on the floor which is cleaned and consecrated by smearing it with cow-dung and strewing over it the *Kush* grass, the sacred basil leaf, sesamum, barley and *Ganga Mati*. The dying man is stripped of his ornaments and clothes, only a single garment wrap his emaciated body, the hair of his head and his moustaches are shaved and his body is washed with water. He is then laid on the ground already prepared for the purpose. A few drops of water from the sacred Ganga are poured into his mouth, a priest recites verses from the *Vedas*, or the *Bhagvad Gita* and the near relations or the family priest ask him to

repeat "Narayan", "Narayan". His son rests the dying man's head on his lap and comforts him until he has drawn his last breath.

A small cup, containing a cake with a silver coin laid upon it, is placed in his hand. Some poor Brahman is then called to receive the cup from the hands of the dying man. Rich persons present cow, gold or other valuables.

Simultaneously they put in the mouth of the dying man a leaf of the purple basil and a portion of curd, and also other sacred articles like the rice of Shri Jagan Nath at Puri or *Charnamrit* of Nathji by Vaishnavas and some jewels called *Navratna*. When all is over, the women of the family sit round the body weeping and wailing while the menfolk and the children go out and sit on the verandah bare-headed. The chief mourner puts on only a waist-cloth and an oblong cloth on the shoulder and sits in the front of the barber who shaves the chief mourner's head except the top knot and his face except the eyebrows, and pares his nails.

Five lumps of barley flour and water for the ritual called *pind dan* or lump offerings are prepared and one is placed as an offering where the corpse is lying, the second at the doorway of the house, the third at the place nearly half way to the cremation ground, the fourth on reaching the cremation ground and the fifth on the funeral pile. The chief mourner leads the procession with fire in a pot hanging from a cord tied round its neck.

Half way to the burning ground the bier is lowered, and without looking back, the bearers change places. When they reach the burning ground an earthen altar is made and the fire from the pot is poured over it. A few chips of firewood are thrown over the fire and it is fed with *ghee*. Close to the platform some ground is sprinkled with water and sesamum seeds are thrown over it. On this spot the funeral pyre is built by the mourners and they strew round it blades of *darbha* grass and sprinkle it with water. The bier is then sprinkled with sesamum seeds and water; the upper cloth is pulled off the dead body and thrown aside; and it is laid on the pile. All the five *Pindas* or lump offerings are then placed on the breast. Sandal wood and basil leaves are scattered over the body. The son, or the nearest kin of the deceased, carrying an earthen pot full of water over his shoulders lights a bundle of dry grass or sticks and passing three times round the pile places the fire near the head of the corpse and the other mourners throw the rest of the fire under the pile. The party of mourners sit down, and watch the burning of the body with sad

resignation. When the skull is nearly consumed the chief mourner pours clarified butter upon the skull and tries to break its burnt structure with a long pole. This is called *kapal kriya*. After the termination of the cremation ceremony all the persons perform ablutions, wash their clothes, and accompany the principal mourner to the house of the deceased where the head of the family expresses his gratitude to all who joined the funeral and enters the house where he is received by the ladies of the house and the female relatives with loud lamentations.

Among most of the classes, the ashes of the dead are collected on the third day and a ceremony called *Asthi Sanchaya* is performed. The bones are cast in the flowing water and if no stream is at hand they are deposited in a pit dug for the purpose, and sprinkled with water. He who sets fire to the pile collects seven small pieces of bones, which are taken to the Ganges at Hardwar.

A woman, on the death of her husband, breaks the bracelets.

SHRADHA—The *shradha* ceremony is performed by the chief mourner. On the 12th day a sumptuous feast called *mosar* or *Kariya-war*, is arranged for the members of the community. During the *shradha* ceremony, the chief mourner wears a *Saniya* or silk cloth, instead of a turban round his head. The *Saniya* is removed on the 13th day when his father-in-law presents him with a new turban. Near relatives are feasted from the tenth to the thirteenth day, and on that day the family priest is presented with *Sajja*, or a sleeping cot with bedding, brass and copper vessels and various kinds of fruits and vegetables in the belief that they will be used by the departed soul.

On the morning of the thirteenth day, the mourner anoints himself with oil and after taking his bath performs a rite to reintroduce himself to the usual routine of life. A feast is also held.

Shradha ceremonies are also performed on the *tithi* or the lunar day on which the person had died. The oblations of the first anniversary are celebrated with great solemnity. The annual *shradha* is performed on the day corresponding to the day of death in the first half of the month of *Ashwina*. Where the deceased's family can afford it, a *shradha* is also performed on the anniversary day, which is known as *Ksyaya tithi*.

Rituals among the Mohammedans

BIRTH CEREMONY—On the sixth day of the birth the baby is washed and the ceremony is known as the *Chhati* when the relatives present

clothes and jewellery to the child and the mother. This ceremony is accompanied by feast and music. On the 7th day after the birth, a ceremony known as *Akika* or *Hakika* is performed when the head of the child is shaved, goats are sacrificed and the relatives are feasted.

The next bath is given to the child on the 20th or the 40th day. This ceremony is called *Chilla* and on this occasion also friends and relatives are fed, *patashas* are distributed and alms are given to the poor.

The *Khatna* or circumcision is done on any auspicious day between the age of two and nine years. A few days before the actual date, the boy puts on a gala attire and decorates himself with flowers like a bridegroom on the eve of his marriage. The *Zarrah* or barber cuts the skin in lieu of which he receives money ranging between Rs. 1.25 and Rs. 10 according to the financial circumstances of the father. The healing of the wound is followed by a feast.

NAMING—The name giving ceremony is performed in a year or two after the birth, when the Qazi fixes the name for the child and gets a present of a few rupees.

BISMILLAH—When the child attains the age of five a pious man teaches him to pronounce the word "Bismillah" and this marks the beginning of his school life

DEATH CEREMONY—When the members of the family have little doubt about the approaching end of the ailing man they start reading the holy Quran, generally the chapter 'Yasin'. The dying mother calls her children around her bed and whispers *Dudh* which means "I forgive you for the non-performance if any, of duties enjoined upon you in lieu of sucking the breast of the mother". When a son dies before his mother he utters the same words. The dying wife tells her husband, "*Mehar Bukshiti Hun*". According to Muslim law a sum called *Mehar* is settled at the time of marriage, which the husband should pay to the wife. It is of two kinds, prompt payment and deferred payment or *maujjal* and *Muwajjal*. The deferred *Mehar* usually remains unpaid; the wife at the death-bed, therefore, forgives the husband, for not paying if it has not been paid. When the wife survives the husband, at the time of taking away the corpse the wife repeats the same thing, "*Mehar Mene Buksha Mere Khuda Ne Buksha*". I have forgiven the *Mehar* and my God has forgiven you the *Mehar*. The dead body is washed and wrapped in a coffin after cutting off from it a piece of cloth for *kachhni* (underwear). The relatives also put *dupattas* or *chadras* on the dead body which is made to lie on a *charpai*.

The body is anointed with scent and camphor. Flowers are scattered over the coffin which is then taken to the burial ground in a funeral procession attended by the friends and relatives of the deceased.

At the burial ground, all those present perform *Janazeki Namaz* led by the *Qazi*. The grave is then dug, and the corpse is lowered into it covering it with stone slabs but keeping it hollow underneath. The slabs are then covered with earth, a sheet of cloth is spread over it, some flowers are strewn and *Fatiha* prayer is recited. For the next three days *Halva* is cooked and offered to the poor. On the third day fried grams (*chanas*) weighing at least $12\frac{1}{2}$ seers (about $11\frac{1}{2}$ kgs) and sometimes mixed with *Pata-shas* are distributed to the children. Funeral feasts are arranged for the relatives and *fakirs* on the third, tenth, twentieth, thirtieth and fortieth days, when clothes are also offered to the *Qazi*. The celebration of *Bada Chehlum* depends upon the financial condition of the deceased. Funeral feasts by way of distribution of sweets are held at the end of third month, sixth month and the year, as well as on festivals like Bakra-Id, Idul-fitr, Shaberat etc. Alms are also distributed during the Moharram for the sake of the deceased.

Mourning period is observed by the widow for four months and ten days. After this period she is permitted to contract another marriage if she likes.

Position of women

Women are mostly dependent on their husbands as in other parts of the country although in rural areas, they work shoulder to shoulder with men and are also earning members of the family. The practice of purdah which was prevalent among the Rajputs, Brahmans, Mahajans and Muslims is gradually dying out though orthodox families still cling to it. With the increasing outlets in the political, educational and social fields, the younger generation have certainly a different outlook and vision than the older ones. They attend schools and colleges and exercise the right to vote.

Prostitution

There are no brothels in the district and the immoral traffic is prohibited under the Immoral Traffic Act.

Drinking

Drinking was prevalent among the Rajputs and many of the

well-to-do. Drinking bouts were common on important ceremonies among the higher classes. At present there are 62 liquor shops in the district.

Home life

DWELLINGS—Most of the houses in the rural areas of the district are built of unburnt or sun-baked bricks and plastered with cow dung. The roofs contain stone slabs supported on wooden beams on which a kind of clay called *murd* is plastered to make them last long. The houses of the wealthy people in the rural areas have *sals* or verandhas and *oras* or closed small rooms. Poor cultivators live in *jhoompras* and *dhanis*, built of jowar stocks and fuel wood. Some of the rich cultivators have built pukka houses of stones.

It is only in the important towns like Nagaur, Merta, Ladnun and Didwana etc. that imposing structures called the *havelis* are noticeable. They are exclusively built of sandstone and mortar. In other urban areas and bigger villages, the houses, with the exception of the residences of the Thakur and perhaps a few Mahajans, are only common place buildings known as *ghar* and *padwa*.

Havelies, *Mahala* or *garhs* or forts are now rarely built and have become obsolete and few in number. Most of them which exist now are double storeyed and entry into them is effected through a gateway passage from one of the outer walls. From the inner court a few steps lead to the *chaupal* or verandah where strangers are received. The building is raised on a plinth three or four feet high. These mansions, with a few exceptions in Nagaur, Ladnun and Merta have little claim to architectural beauty. Some of them are lavishly constructed and tastefully ornamented but most of these are plain, massive and monotonous. The plinth is built of closely joined blocks of polished stone. The posts and beams are massive but short. The ceilings are made of small and closely fitted beams, sometimes ornamented with variegated geometrical pattern. The floors are made of small chips or slits of gaily painted wood or ivory. The roofs are either terraced or covered with flat tiles. The staircases are in the wall and are narrow and dark. These *havelis* are being replaced by modern houses, called *kothis* or bungalows.

The houses of the members of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are mostly small, low roofed, ill-ventilated and dirty. They are usually situated on the out-skirts of the villages. Houses of the poor are single-roomed thatched huts with walls of mud or mud and wattle reed, millet or cotton stock, roofed by a bamboo frame and covered by grass or leaves.

FURNITURE—In the urban areas, modern furniture such as sofa sets, chairs, dining tables etc. decorate the houses of the wealthy people while those less fortunate have only a *duree* or a *chaddar* with row of cushions propped against the walls, some lamps hung from the ceiling and sometimes a few pictures or calendars hanging against the walls satisfying their aesthetic sense. In some cases a *nivar* bed is placed in the parlour for the head of the family and it is also used by the guests. Only a cot or two furnishes the houses of the poor.

DRESS—The dress of an ordinary cultivator in the rural areas consists of a thick *dhoti* and *angarkhi* or waist coat of coarse cloth known as *reja* and the white turban as a head-gear. He also keeps a piece of cloth called *khesla* on his shoulders. The female cultivator wears *Ghaghra* as a lower garment, which is made from coarse cloth called *dhabalia* and as upper garment the bodice (*Kanchali*) which covers only the bosom and the upper arms and not the belly or the back and arms. She covers the head and the body with an *orhna* of coarse cloth. Jat women generally use red *orhna*. Rajput ladies wear *kurti* over the *kanchali* which covers the whole body, belly, back and arms. The shoes of a cultivator though very rough, are very durable.

Two kinds of head-gears are prevalent in the district for the males, the *pagri* and the *safa*. Mahajans generally use a saffron or pink *pagri*. When this tied up in the shape of the head gear, it can be worn without disturbing it for days together, like a cap or a hat. It is interesting to note that the Mahajans of some villages of Nagaur and Didwana tahsils can be recognised as belonging to that region by the peculiar style of their *pagris*.

The *safa* or *phenta* as it is called in certain areas is used by all castes except the Mahajans. Rajputs and Brahmans use superior cloth for their turban and have a different style. Poorer sections such as *Bhambis* and *Harijans* wear a small turban just to cover their head.

In the towns and big villages, the business community generally wear a *dhoti* of fine cloth, a shirt, a coat buttoned up to the neck (known as Jodhpuri coat) and a turban or *pagri* preferably red or saffron. The educated and those in service put on trousers or a *payjama*, a shirt, an open collared or buttoned up coat or a bush-shirt. The influence of western mode of dress on these people is clearly visible. Females generally wear a *ghaghra* or *lengha*, *orhna*, *kanchali* or a blouse of superior and fine cloth. Some of them also use saris but among the younger generation, *churidar payjama*, skirt and *dupatta* are becoming popular.

The Muslim males generally wear *payjama*, a *kurta* and a cap, black or red. Among the wealthier Muslims, *sherwani* and *churidar payjama* are more common. Their ladies also wear *churidar payjama* or *sahwar* and full-sleeved *jumper*. While moving out, they use *burqa*.

ORNAMENTS—In the rural areas, the silver and brass ornaments are generally in vogue though a few wealthy families use gold ornaments too. The rural women folk are very fond of ornaments and if their economic conditions permit, they would put ornaments on every visible part of their body specially on social ceremonies. The common type of jewellery worn by the females in rural areas includes : *Bor* or *borla*, worn just above the fore-head with its string having strewn or tucked carefully in the hair; *Ognia*, *tops* and ear-rings, on the ears; *ognias*, in the three holes made on the upper part of the ear, and the *tops* put in the middle part of the ear with a chain connecting the *tops* with the upper holes and small chains of pearls hanging down the *tops*. A *nath* or *phini* on the nose; *tewta*, *kanthi*, *hansli* and *badli* on the neck, *tewta* made of gold are indicative of a sound financial position. The *chuda* made of either ivory or *lac* or rubber is worn on the upper arm from shoulder to elbow, the *muthias* of silver or *lac* or the bangles over the fore-arm; rings on the finger; *kadiya*, *anwala* and *nevaria* on the ankles. Men in the rural areas wear a *hansli* on the neck, *gudtha* or *loong* on the ears and *kadas* on the ankles.

In the urban areas the ornaments differ in shape and design. Men who are educated rarely wear ornaments except a ring on the finger but some Mahajans and orthodox people wear *Kantha* or *Sankli* round their neck, *loong* on their ears and rings on the fingers. Some of the younger generation have taken a fancy to wearing a thin gold chain with a central locket round the neck. Golden buttons with ornamental design are commonly used by wealthy Mahajans.

Fashions in female ornaments have undergone considerable change during the last twenty years, the general tendency being towards avoiding ornaments of heavy weight. The use of *bor* on the fore-head is gradually declining in the urban areas. Ear-rings, *tops*, *bunda* and *loong* are still common though the designs are new. Ear-rings of various types, and small *phini* and *nath* studded with precious stones are now getting into fashion. The old ladies still wear *tushi* and *kanthi* round the neck but the younger ones have taken to necklaces *chanderhars*, locket and chains in their place. *Chudi*, *hathphool*, rings, *bajuband*, *kada*, *gokhru*, *chamakchuri* and gold wrist watches are worn on the hands. Costlier bangles known as

gajra made of gold and pearls, studded with semi-precious stones are used by the wealthier section of the community. *Torries* and *churies* made of silver are worn on legs. Some ladies wear gold and silver *kandoras* round their waist.

FOOD—The diet of the people of the district may be classified first into non-vegetarian and vegetarian and again, according to their rural and urban habits. One item, however, is liked by all, as all of them are fond of chillies and hot spices.

The non-vegetarians are found both among the Hindus and the Muslims. The Muslims do not on account of religious factors take bacon or pork, and though they have no inhibitions against taking beef yet in order to respect the religious sentiments of their Hindu neighbours, they avoid it. Generally the non-vegetarians, both Hindus and the Muslims eat mutton, deer and certain birds like partridges, *titars*, *baters* etc.

The staple food-grain of the people in rural areas has been *bajara*, but wheat is also now widely used. They take their meals thrice a day, the morning meals consist of *bajari*, or *jowar* cake (*sogra*) with *chhach*, or *rabari*, flour boiled with whey; the afternoon meals include *sogra*, onions and *chatani* of chillies and salt. Evening meals, which are taken late at night, consist of *sogra* of *bajara* with *moong* or *moth ki dal*. The substitute items in the morning meals are *bajari ki rab* and *kheech*. The cooking media used by cultivating class and the labour class is usually *til* oil but now there has been a tendency to use *ghee*. The common vegetables are *mooli*, *gawar-fali*, brinjals, *kachra*, the green chillies being an essential ingredient. The *sag* of *gatta*, *mūngodi* and *paped* are also very common. Of late, the use of tea has become a usual feature even in the remote villages. Formerly many people in rural areas used to take opium also but this habit has been given up by most of them.

Special dishes are prepared on festive occasions such as marriages and festivals as also on *mosars* at the time of death in the family. On *Akhateej*, *Kheechda* of wheat with plenty of *ghee* and milk is prepared. On other occasions *lapsi-chawal* (a preparation of crushed wheat, rice, *ghee* and *gur*) or *seera* or pudding make the usual preparations. *Seera* is considered to be a very rich and sumptuous diet by the labourers in rural areas. On the occasion of the *mosar* or the death dinners, people spend extravagantly.

Wheat is the staple food-grain among the inhabitants of urban

area, *Chapati* or *phulka* (the wheat flour cake) with at least *dal* of *moong*, *moth* or *gram* and one green vegetable are the usual items in the diet. In the early morning people generally take tea with or without any eatables. In some families, milk or tea is taken with biscuits or *halva*. In Nagaur town, taking of *malpua* with tea in the morning is a common feature. *Malpua* is a speciality of Nagaur town as is the *peda* of Merta and these are highly cherished in the surrounding areas. Tea is common in the urban and rural areas and people take it as many times they can afford. In every corner, one can find some tea stall. Poor people take bread with *chhach* in the early morning hours. People engaged in business and in service spend huge amounts on feasts connected with marriages when several preparations of sweetmeats such as *Laddu*, *ghevar*, *Khurma*, *jalebi*, *dal-ka-seera* and *fini* are served. On festivals people prepare special dishes. On *Shitala Ashtami* people take food prepared on the previous night and it consists of such preparations as *karba*, *rayata*, *gulgula*, *panchkutta*, *malpua*, *korma-ki-pudi*, *dilkushal-ki-chakki*, *choorma-ka-laddu* etc. On *Dasahara*, *lapsi* and *dal-ka-seera* are popular dishes as also on *Diwali*, *Holi*, *Gangor* festivals etc. Death feasts are not very common in urban areas. Among the upper classes, meals are served in the metal trays called *thal* and *katoris* (cups), the latter for liquid items. In the rural areas, excepting the wealthy families, people generally take their meals placing the *sogara* on their hand and *rabdi* and *chhachh* in a bronze cup (*Kansi-ka-katora*).

In the big towns like Merta, Degana, Nagaur, Parvatsar, Kuchaman, Didwana, Ladnun, vegetarian and non-vegetarian food is served in hotels and also in *dhabas*.

Daily Life

The farmers rise before the day breaks, and feeding their bullocks, with a bunch of grass, busy themselves for a few minutes in certain domestic chores. By the time the cattle have finished grass, they get ready to set out for the field, driving their bullocks before them. They remain busy for the whole day in agricultural operations of the season. Their wives at home prepare their meals, bring it to them in the fields and after working with them in the fields for some time return home and busy themselves again in the preparation of the evening meals. On a few holidays when there is leisure the young and the old gather in the village temple to enjoy chorus singing to the accompaniment of an *iktara* or *tambura*, *peti baza* (harmonium) *dholak* and *kartal*. A common meeting place in the village is either the temple or *gawad* or *hathai*. Some villages have

panchayat reading rooms with newspapers and periodicals. Low priced transistors have of late become a common means of recreation in the villages.

The priestly class usually get up early in the morning, take bath at home or at the nearest well and get busy in their prayers. Thereafter, they visit the houses of their patrons, inquire about their welfare and wishing them good day, pay a visit to the temple on the way. During the day, they attend to their multifarious duties like studying horoscopes, undertaking *japs* and *kirtans*.

Baniyas or Mahajans as they are respectfully called, and the trading classes, generally, set out in the morning for *ugahi* or recovery of the dues. After their meals and chewing a betel nut they set out to the public market, where they follow their avocation until evening, when they return home for dinner, paying sometimes visit to the temple on their way.

In the towns, the life, of course, is marked with greater hustle and bustle. The office goers leave their homes before ten in the morning and return after five in the evening.

The ladies belonging to the poorer classes both in rural and urban areas, leave their beds early in the morning often to grind the grain. Even when they have no grains to grind they must still rise at the same early hour to milch the cows and churn the curd to extract butter which they turn into ghee. They go to the tank or well to fetch water. The *panghat* of Mundwa town is well known and every time a woman goes to the well, she wears a different garment. After their return they must set themselves to the tasks of preparing breakfast and lunch for the family. The males of the family are served first and the women take their turn afterwards. After breakfast when the men set off to their various duties, the women engage themselves in cleaning of the house, the fireplace, the plates and dishes and other vessels and in winnowing grain for grinding the condiments for domestic consumption. By convention and habit, woman does not take any rest while her husband or his brother is in the house or sits to eat until all the male members of the family including her little sons have finished their meals. They can only gossip with their women friends while washing pots, or bringing water from the well or while going for the nature's call. About three in the afternoon they have little leisure which they spend in attending to their children, or in combing out and oiling their hair. The women from Katholi, Jayal, Inana, Kuchera, Mundwa,

Kharnal areas are known for their robust figure, and cleanliness. In the evening they again get busy in preparing the meals.

The life of the urban women and that of the well-to-do classes, is slightly different. The towns have also a few working women in schools, colleges and hospitals. Due to availability of modern amenities such as flour-mills, water taps, stoves and *angithi*, the household duties are not as burdensome for them as for their counterparts in the rural areas though getting the children ready for schools, keeping the house neat and clean, and entertaining the guests occupy most of their time.

Amusements

The general mode of recreation is cinema though tonga races are also organised at some places. The school and college students play their evening games. Club-life, however, is scanty and clubs are few, only at Nagaur, Merta, Merta Road, Didwana and Parvatsar and they are patronised mostly by government officers and lawyers.

Children play games which resemble hockey (*thia dari*) or hide and seek (*lukmichani*) etc., while kite-flying is indulged in by both children and the adults. Other sources of amusements are the dancing parties, musical entertainments, cards, chess and *char bhar* (a game like draughts), *nau kankari* and *solah kankri*.

The *dholi*, a professional musician is invited to sing during the marriage parties and on other festive occasions. Classical music is not popular in the urban areas where light music is much appreciated. People in villages sing folk songs on *chang* during the *Phalgun*. *Bhajan* and *Kirtans* are organised on sacred days. *Ramlila* and *Raslila* and occasional theatrical performances also attract large gatherings. *Chopar* is a favourite indoor game. Old men amuse themselves by telling tales to the younger generation. These tales pass from father to son.

Kathputli or puppetteering is another source of entertainment to the villagers, and often to the town men too. The only equipments required for the show are a pair of cots and a curtain. The tact of puppet dance lies in the dexterity of the movements of the puppet dancer's fingers. Two cots are placed in a vertical position nearly 1.8 metres apart, on which an artistically embroidered curtain is hung horizontally. Behind this curtain another plain curtain is fixed as a background for the show. The *Kathputli-wala* stands behind that curtain and holds a bunch of threads tied over his fingers by which he controls the movements of the puppets. The show

invariably takes place during the night and lasts for about two hours. The *Kathputliwala* and his wife are the only performers and the latter plays on the *Dholak* and sings the story of the puppet dance while it is going on. There is an interesting discussion which goes on throughout the play as a running commentary for the show. The story of Amar Singh Rathor of Nagaur is the most common theme which is presented through the puppet dance. The *Khyal* of Amar Singh is also well-known.

Another source of occasional amusement is provided by the wandering *Bhopas* displaying *Pabuji-ki-pad*. A curtain commonly known as *Pabuji-ki-pad* having paintings on the life of Pabuji, a Rathor of Marwar, and rolled on a thick bamboo is carried by these *Bhopas* from one place to another. The believers in the mysterious power of Pabuji invite them to read the *Pad* for them for the recovery of their children from illness, or removal of any evil influence which might have effected their family. The *Pad* is spread tight in a vertical position and the wife of the *Bhopa* throws light on the different pictures of the *Pad* while singing and dancing. The *Bhopa* plays on his favourite instrument known as *Rawan Hatha* and sings. The members of the audience are greatly impressed by the show and expect happy results for the good of their families.

The *kamads* are the traditional entertainers. Their chief occupation is to maintain ancestral records of the Bhomia families and sing and dance for them on special occasions of night vigil before their deity Ramdev. The whole group of *kamad* entertainers consists of two men and two women generally belonging to one family. The men play on *iktara* and the women on *majira*, which is tied all over their body in a peculiar manner. The men sing while the women play on *majira* in some of the most quaint and difficult poses. The *kamads* of Junjhala village near Kuchera and that of Didwana are well known for their art of playing *Terah Tali*.

MUSIC AND DANCING—The harmonium, *tabla*, *dholaki*, *sitar*, *sarangi*, *iktara* and *tambura* are the popular musical instruments. *Dholaki* is frequently used at the time of *gher* or *garbha* dance in the month of the *Phalgun*. The *Khyals* or dancing dramas of Kuchaman town are very famous throughout Rajasthan.

Dance and music play an important role in the cultural activities of this district. The *tal* is mostly *keharwa*. On the moonlit nights of *Phalgun*, the women folk stand in a circle and then they gracefully move two steps inside and two steps outside the circle clapping in harmony at

the end of each movement. This is popularly called "*Loor*" dance. At the time of marriages the ladies dance to drum-beats taking a full round with graceful movement of hands, once opening the full palm and fingers and the next moment pressing the fingers on the palm. The month of *Phalgun* (February-March) is a special occasion of rejoicing for the cultivators. The males, too, on this occasion, dance in a circle creating a harmonious rythm by strokes of sticks at fixed intervals. This is known as *Dandya* dance. Another common dance is *ghumar* which has three varieties the one played with small coloured sticks in hands, the other when the dancing is done in pairs (both men and women) and the third when the movement is very swift and the veils are on.

In the music, usually the *desh* and *sorath* ragas are preferred. The subject matter of the songs is mostly longing of a newly wedded bride to be with her husband who happens to be in far off lands for making his livelihood. The most popular songs are *Mumal*, *Ratan Rana*, *Morda*, *Jhala*, *Koyalri* and *Nihar deo*.

Paintings

The walls on both sides of the main entrance of palatial houses of the rich and temples of deities are decorated with paintings or pictures of elephants, horses, lions, and sometimes, Radha Krishna, Ganeshji and also some religious episodes from *Ramayan* and *Mahabharat*. Wall paintings in the Jain temples depict important events in the life of Lord Mahavir, Parsavanath & c. and of Jain Sadhus and they seem to have been painted by skilled professional painters. Merta town is renowned for artistic paintings on toys.

Mode of Greetings

Ram Ram is the most common form of greetings among both men and women. The Mahajans, and those who are Vaishnavites, use the word *Jai Shri Krishna* or "Victory to Shri Krishna" and Jains use *Jai Jinendra*. *Jai Mataji-ki* is used by the Rajputs and also by Charans, and Bhats who generally greet by saying *shubhraj*. The Kayasthas greet each other with *Jai Shriji ki*. Among the Scheduled Castes such as Bhambis, Meghwals, Chamars, *RamRam* is the common mode of greeting. The Muslims greet each other by *Salam-ale-kam* and the reply is *Walikam Salam*.

Fairs

Fairs are held at several places in the district. Some of them had

religious significance originally but later got converted into mundane cattle fairs due to the exchange of cattle in large numbers on these occasions.

The cattle fair at Parvatsar more commonly known as *Tejaji-kamela*, is held on 11th *Badi* of *Bhadrapad* and continues for fifteen days. It is held in the honour of Teja, the Jat warrior. About 40,000 to 50,000 persons gather there from various districts of the State as well as from other parts of the country, specially from Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Gujarat. One lakh of cattle heads approximately assemble here. Nagauri breed of cattle is a well known stock and is in great demand.

Other fairs held in the district are given below :

S.No.	Name	Place	Date	Approximate assemblage
1	2	3	4	5
1	Shitlamata cattle fair	Bhakari	<i>Baisakh Sudi 8</i>	1,000
2.	Shitlamata cattle fair	-do-	<i>Chaitra Badi 8</i>	15,000
3.	Hanumanji ka mela	Badoo	<i>Chaitra Badi 15</i>	15,000
4.	Kevaya Mataji ka mela	Kinsariya	<i>Chaitra</i>	5,000
5.	Shitlaashtami ka mela	Borawad	<i>Chaitra Badi 8</i>	4,000
6.	Hanumanji ka mela	Bagot	<i>Chaitra Sudi 15</i>	3,000
7.	Bherunji ka mela	Thanwala	<i>Bhadrapad Sudi 14</i>	5,000
8.	Mataji ka mela	Bhanwal	<i>Asoj Sudi 8 & 9</i>	2,000
9.	Balaji ka mela	Dodiyana	<i>Bhadrapad Badi 15</i>	4,000
10.	Shiyala mataji ka mela	Jaswantabad	<i>Chaitra</i>	5,000
11.	Pabuji ka mela	Jasnagar	<i>Chaitra Sudi 10</i>	5,000
12.	Pukharam Maharaj ka mela	Badayali	<i>Asoj Sudi 6 & 7</i>	2,500
13.	Tejaji ka mela	Rohisa	<i>Bhadrapad Sudi 10</i>	2,000
14.	Gogaji ka mela	Padu kalan	<i>Bhadrapad Badi 9 & 10</i>	3,000
15.	Gosainji ka mela	Junjala	<i>Asoj Sudi 2 & Chaitra Sudi 2</i>	-
16.	Mataji ka mela	Goth Manglod	<i>Asoj Sudi 8 & Chaitra Sudi 8</i>	-
17.	Rolpeer Sahib ka mela	Rol	<i>Kartik Sudi 1</i>	-
18.	Ramdeoiji ka mela	Kathoti	<i>Bhadrapad Sudi 10 & Mah Sudi 10</i>	-
19.	Pithalji ka mela	Goran	<i>Chaitra Sudi 4</i>	-
20.	Saman Diwan Baba ka mela	Khatu	<i>Id-ul-zuha</i>	-

1	2	3	4	5
21.	Jhulon ka mela	Molasar	<i>Shrawan</i> 11 to 15	3,000
22.	Manwalio ka mela	Kaprod	<i>Bhadrapad Sudi</i> 7	2,000
23.	Dayalji ka mela	Gada	<i>Phalgun Sudi</i> 11	5,000
24.	Teej ka mela	Didwana	<i>Shrawan Badi</i> 3	2,000
25.	Gangor ka mela	Didwana	<i>Chaitra Sudi</i> 3	2,000
26.	Dashahara ka mela	Didwana	<i>Asoj Sudi</i> 10	2,000
27.	Shitlashtami	Didwana	<i>Chaitra Badi</i> 8	2,000
28.	Hariramji Baba ka mela	Jhorda	<i>Bhadrapad Sudi</i> 5 & <i>Chaitra Sudi</i> 5	10,000
29.	Hanumanji ka mela	Khetolav	<i>Kartika Sudi</i> 14	1,500
30.	Kesariya Kanwarji ka mela	Bhadwasi	<i>Bhadrapad Sudi</i> 7	1,500
31.	Hanumanji ka mela	Sri Balaji	<i>Asoj and chaitra Sudi</i> 15	7,000
32.	Balapeer Sahib ka mela	Kumari	<i>Bhadrapad Sudi</i> 12 & 13	2,000-3,000
33.	Cattle fair	Bapor	<i>Bhadrapad Sudi</i> 7 to 15,000	10,000
34.	Ramdeoiji ka mela	Nagaur	<i>Magh</i>	50,000
35.	Cattle fair	Merta	<i>Vaishakha</i>	20,000
36.	Mira Bai or Char Bhujaji ka mela	Merta	<i>Shrawana</i>	10,000
37.	Parasnathji ka mela	Merta Road	<i>Bhadrapad Sudi</i> 10	-
38.	Ramdeoiji Baba ka mela	Baswani	<i>Bhadrapad Sudi</i> 10	5,000

HOLI—It is the festival (*Phalgun* or February-March) of colours when Hindus (and at places, Muslims too) throw coloured powder (*Gulal*) as well as coloured water over each other. In the evening or early morning, at an auspicious time, fire is lit at the cross-roads and cow dung cakes are thrown into it. *Jowar* and gram are parched into the fire. Music parties are also arranged on the occasion. Songs are sung in praise of Cupid, the God of love. The common and the uneducated class of people and sometimes the teen-aged boys enjoy the festival by taking excessive liquor, *bhang* and other intoxicants, throwing mud and ashes on

the passers by and using abusive language and making obscene signs and demonstrations to each other. Formerly this type of hooliganism used to continue for days together but now it is restricted to two or three days and never after the Holi.

SHITLA ASHTAMI—It is a very popular festival observed with equal enthusiasm and reverence and by all the Hindus. On this day the goddess of small pox (*Sitla*) is worshipped and people take the meals cooked on the previous night as anything hot is tabooed. Women are more particular in the observance of this festival than men. Now-a-days the custom of taking cold meals by men is gradually disappearing.

RAKHI OR RAKSHA BANDHAN—It is the festival (July-August) of the brothers and sisters. The sisters tie sacred threads round the wrists of their brothers and are amply rewarded. The sacred thread stands as a symbol of their blessings on the one hand and as a reminder of the sacred duty of the brother to protect his sister in distress, on the other. The Brahmins celebrate it by performing their annual rite of purifications also. They tie sacred threads round the wrists of their *Yajmans* or clients to offer them *Raksha* or protection from all sorts of evil and receive in turn *Dakshina* or reward according to the financial position of the clients.

DASHAHARA—Dashahara though of greater significance to the Rajputs and Kayasthas, is held in equal reverence by all the Hindus. It is observed before Diwali, on *Asoj Shukla* 10.

DIWALI—It is primarily the festival (October-November) of the *Vaishyas*, the bankers and commercial classes who are sometimes called the *Lakshmi putra* or sons of the goddess of wealth. The festival, however, is popular among all Hindus [for obtaining the favours of *Lakshmi*. The whole house as well as the shops are cleaned and often white washed, the furniture set in order, and in the evening the *diyas* (earthen lamps) are lit on the roofs and alcoves and the goddess *Lakshmi* is worshipped.

NAVRATRI—The Navratri festival is observed twice a year, in *Chaitra* and in *Ashwin* months. The cultivators also, for all the nine days worship their village deities before whom drums are beaten, *bhajans* (devotional songs) are sung and goats and also he-buffaloes are sacrificed. In almost all the temples the deities are supposed to enter the body of the chief worshippers known as *Bhopas* who make predictions about the future course of events; such as the prospects of rains or conditions of crop or the visitations of any calamity or epidemic. They also reply to the queries of

individuals to the recovery of the sick in their family, the birth of a son and such personal problems.

Among the festivals of minor importance may be mentioned: Dawat Pujan or the worship of the ink-pot, Janmasthmi, Makar Sakranti, Basant Panchami and Goganavami.

Dawat Pujan is celebrated on the 3rd day after the Holi and the Diwali. During the princely regime it was celebrated with great pomp and show when the Heads of Departments and offices with the whole of the staff, used to worship the ink-pots, pens, and papers as well as the seals of the courts and offices. The ministerial staff used to present *Nazar* to the officers in a formal durbar and the same was accepted by the officers who added from their own pocket a sum equal to the total amount of *Nazars* so received to create a fund which was utilised for the celebration of a grand feast either on the same day or some other convenient occasions. After the formation of Rajasthan this festival has practically died out except that it is now observed by the commercial classes, specially the bankers and the money-lenders and the jewellers on the Diwali day when they commence their new commercial year and begin the new account books after worshipping them.

JANMASTAMI—On this festival (*Bhaddon*), fast is observed specially by the Vaishnavites, as it is believed to be the day on which lord Krishna, the divine incarnation of Vishnu, was born in human form. All the Vaishnavites keep fast for the day and take their meals after mid-night when they celebrate the birth of Shri Krishna. Some people do not take meals but fruits and vegetables only. Almost all of them visit the nearest temple sometime during the day.

MAKAR SAKRANTI—This is the day when the sun enters the sign of Zodiac, Capricorn. It falls on the fourteenth day of January every year. It is a sacred day, alms are distributed to the poor, cows are fed, and in some places, children enjoy kite flying during the noon as it is pleasant to stand on the roof to bathe in sunshine on a wintry day.

BASANT PANCHAMI—This festival (*Magh*) ushers in the spring season and marks the termination of the winter which is very severe in the desert area. It is on this day that singing and dancing with the accompaniment of *Chang* begin and merry-making with the use of colour starts which continues upto Holi and terminates a few days after it.

The Muhammadan festivals are the same as elsewhere, namely the Muharram, the Id-ul-Fitr, the Id-ul-Zuha and the Shab-i-barat. The

festivals celebrated by the Jains are the Mahavir Jayanti (*Chaitra*) and Parushan (or *Paryushan Parva*).

Beliefs and Superstitions

As elsewhere, the people of the district are afflicted with superstitious beliefs which have their origin in fear, wonder and mystery accelerated by religious dogma. They believe in the existence of good and evil spirits; and in heaven and hell where the soul of the dead resides after death according to his good or evil actions in life. They cherish as truth the superstitions centring round the interpretation of dreams, the fall of lizard, the sneeze and the good and bad omens. They have implicit faith in astrology, and a astrologer or a priest is invariably consulted to fix an auspicious day for the performance of a religious ceremony. Quivering of right limbs of the body in the case of males is believed to be a good omen while the left parts of the body if found quivering forecasts evil. Names of certain villages are believed to be inauspicious and they will not be uttered before breakfast and likewise the names of certain persons and animals are avoided; some colours such as red, saffron and yellow bring good luck while others such as black and white are inauspicious. The moles and other birth-marks on the body of persons are believed to predict the man's character or career. Jewels and precious stones have good and bad effects attached to them; and beliefs in the efficacy of *mantras* and *tantras* and the magical affects of recitations of certain books or verses from the scriptures still persist in a large number of people.

Social Change

Within the last 30 or 40 years and especially after the Independence, spread of education, wider contacts due to better means of transport and communications and effects of social legislation have brought about many changes and have removed many social taboos and religious inhibitions. The stranglehold of caste is loosening. The trains and buses carry people of high and low castes sitting side by side. Food is served in the hotels and restaurants to all alike. Temples are now open to every caste. Equal treatment is given to everybody in the hospitals, jails, law courts, cinema-houses, schools and colleges. Many such other institutions ignore the claims of caste within their walls. The change in other spheres however is slow. Inter caste marriages are not usually permitted. The dowry system is still prevalent. But the effects of urbanisation is visible even in the remotest village. Possession of a transistor is a common craze amongst the youngsters which has given them a new lust for life. The terylene garments are replacing those of handloom and cotton, tea and *bidi* have reached every village, howsoever remote it might be.

APPENDIX I

Bilingualism 1961¹

S. No.	Mother Tongue	Total speakers		Total No. of persons returned as speaking a language subsidiary to mother tongue	
		Males	Females	Males	Females
	ALL MOTHER TONGUES	480,586	454,362	14,065	4,004
1.	Arabic/Arabi	6	—	5	—
2.	Bengali	19	8	14	1
3.	Dhundhari	2	45	—	—
4.	English	55	—	9	—
5.	Gujarati	57	47	1	16
6.	Kannada	1	—	1	—
7.	Kashmiri	1	—	1	—
8.	Khariboli	35,245	27,037	2,971	711
9.	Malayalam	2	—	2	—
10.	Malvi	—	1	—	—
11.	Marathi	9	4	6	1
12.	Marwari	301,198	282,072	3,481	380
13.	Mewari	—	8	—	—
14.	Nepali	1	—	1	—
15.	Punjabi	520	651	372	372
16.	Rajasthani	117,765	118,999	928	42
17.	Shekhawati	3	84	—	—
18.	Sindhi	2,196	2,516	1,471	1,093
19.	Telugu	15	—	6	—
20.	Urdu	23,491	22,890	4,796	1,388

1. *Census of India 1961, Vol. XIV, Rajasthan, Part II-C (i), Social and Cultural Tables, pp. 266-267.*

APPENDIX II

Scheduled Castes, 1961 Census (District Nagaur)¹

S. No.	Name of Scheduled Caste	Persons	Males	Females
1.	Aheri	44	18	26
2.	Badi	8	8	—
3.	Bagri	90	29	61
4.	Balai	18,062	9,894	8,168
5.	Bawaria	12,424	6,696	5,728
6.	Bhand	35	7	28
7.	Bhangi	7,796	4,085	3,711
8.	Bola	38	17	21
9.	Chamar, Bhambhi, Jatav, Jatia, Mochi, Raidas, Raigar or Ramdasia	50,898	29,795	21,103
10.	Dabgar	113	48	65
11.	Dhankia	86	36	50
12.	Dheda	1,441	786	655
13.	Dome	54	31	23
14.	Gar, Garura or Gurda	247	98	149
15.	Gavaria	302	159	143
16.	Jingar	15	15	—
17.	Kalbelia	1	1	—
18.	Kamad or Kamadia	219	124	95
19.	Kanjar	53	39	14
20.	Khatik	2,957	1,518	1,439
21.	Koli or Kori	1	1	—
22.	Megh or Meghwal	15,655	3,781	11,874
23.	Mehar	15	—	15
24.	Mehtar	109	44	65
25.	Nut	203	105	98
26.	Sansi	1,064	532	532
27.	Santia	32	14	18
28.	Sargara	759	361	398
29.	Thori or Nayak	10,312	5,504	4,808
30.	Unclassified	40,136	20,014	20,122
Total		163,169	83,760	79,409

1. *Census of India 1961, Vol XIV, Rajasthan, Part V-A*, pp. 209-214.

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

GENERAL AGRICULTURAL CONDITIONS

From the point of view of area, Nagaur is one of the six large districts of the State.¹ Various types of soils are available in the district and they differ from area to area. The climate is dry and ranges between extremes of heat and cold. Intense heat and scorching winds prevail in summer and extreme cold is felt in winter, particularly during nights. The average annual rainfall is 383.4 mm (15.09"). The rains generally begin in late June and end in late September, July and August being the rainiest months. Due to scanty rainfall and fast winds, the gathering sand dunes are a common sight particularly in north-western region. They are generally shaped in long straight ridges, which seldom meet but run parallel. There is no perennial river in the district but only a few seasonal streams and nullahs. The deep water level, particularly in the western region accounts for the dearth of surface wells. In the absence of sufficient underground and surface water, the scanty and erratic rainfall provides the only source of irrigation in most parts of the district. People raise mostly such crops which require less water. In spite of all these drawbacks which hamper the natural growth of agricultural production, the majority of population of the district is engaged in agriculture. At the time of Census of 1961, the cultivators and the agricultural labourers together accounted for 41.92 per cent of the total population and 85.63 per cent of the working population. This did not include the non-working dependents of these cultivators and agricultural labourers.

Land Utilisation

The geographical area of the district according to village papers was 1,764 thousand hectares during the year 1969-70². The cultivated area i.e. the net area sown during the year was 65.82 per cent of the total

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, p. iii.

2. Source : Board of Revenue (Land Records), Rajasthan, Ajmer.

geographical area. In the absence of assured means of irrigation, the area sown more than once was meagre. The fallow land¹ comprised 20.4 per cent of the total area. This included 13.4 per cent of current fallows and 7.0 per cent of other fallow land. Other un-cultivated land (excluding fallow land) comprised of land under miscellaneous tree crops and groves which was negligible, culturable waste land covering 0.4 per cent and permanent pastures and other grazing land extending over another 4.5 per cent of the total geographical area of the district. The area under forest was also very small.

Land not available for cultivation during 1969-70, extended over 8.7 per cent of the total area. Another 4.1 per cent of land was put to non-agricultural uses and the remaining 4.6 per cent was barren and uncultivated.

The pattern of land utilisation in Nagaur district during the years 1951-52 to 1965-66 has been given in Appendix I. These figures are not available beyond 1965-66.

CULTURABLE WASTE—In the year 1952-53, the area covered by culturable waste was 70 thousand hectares which came down to twelve thousand hectares during the year 1960-61 i.e. the last year of the Second Five Year Plan. At the end of the Third Five Year Plan i.e. during 1965-66, the culturable waste area had further declined to eight thousand hectares. It has been going down with efforts at land reclamation initiated under schemes of agricultural development. The net area sown which was 530 thousand hectares in 1951-52 increased to 1,143 thousand hectares at the end of the Second Five Year Plan and further to 1,147 thousand hectares during the last year of the Third Five Year Plan. The double-cropped area is mostly found in Merta, Didwana, Parvatsar and Nawa tahsils where the soil is fertile and irrigation facilities are available. It was only one thousand hectares in 1951-52 but had increased almost ten fold till 1969-70.

Afforestation

In the former Marwar State, the question of forest conservancy was first taken up in 1884 when a special officer was deputed to examine the wooded tracts. In 1888, the State Forest Department came into being.

1. Fallow land includes current fallows i.e. land which is left fallow during the current year only and other fallow land i.e. land which was taken up for cultivation but left temporarily uncultivated for a period not less than one year but not more than five years.

The entire forest areas at that time were held by Jagirdars. The bulk of the forest area was acquired either by grant of cash compensation or by exchange of some other land. For purposes of administration the whole area was divided into four ranges and the forests were entirely closed to grazing by camels, sheep and goats though horned cattle were admitted, except during rains. In times of scarcity, however, cattle were allowed to graze throughout the year, and people were permitted to cut grass and fodder free of charge. The arboricultural operations were mainly confined to the roads in the vicinity of the towns.

The area under forests in Nagaur district is very insignificant being less than 0.01 per cent of the district area. Desert Afforestation Research Station, established at Jodhpur in 1952, and reorganised in 1959 under the name the Central Arid Zone Research Institute of Indian Council of Agricultural Research, initiated grass land development scheme in Molasar, Jobdinagar and Jaswantgarh areas of the district to develop its feed and fodder resources. This project was designed to devise means and methods of re-vegetating the area representing the three major landscape patterns with grass so as to augment the fodder resources.

The Molasar grass land development area, covering 72 hectares, represents the low sand dunes formed on old alluvium; Jobdinagar area comprising 81 hectares, represents riverain flood planes, being situated on the bank of Menda stream; the Jaswantgarh area engulfing 81 hectares of land represents a line flats. All these areas were fenced in the year 1958-59 with a view to observing the effects of closure and light grazing at the rate of about one adult cow on about 7 hectares of land. The closure had a marked effect on the regeneration of trees, shrubs, grasses and a number of weeds. The fodder production increased by 100 per cent due to closure thereby doubling the carrying capacity of the pasture.

Marked regeneration of *khejri* (*prosopis cineraria*), *phog* (*calligonum polygonoides*), *kenkera* (*gymnosporia montana*) and *kairi* (*acacia senegal*) was observed at Molasar during the last decade. Similarly the regeneration of *khejri* (*prosopis cineraria*), *Murali* (*lycium barbarum*) and *Jhau* (*tamarix dioica*) was evident at Jobdinagar. In the case of Jaswantgarh, no large trees or bushes could be regenerated. In order to increase the forage potential of the area some experiments were conducted on re-seeding of *cenchrus ciliaris* and *cenchrus setigerus* after grubbing out the bushes and ploughing the area. It was observed that the *cenchrus spp.* took firm roots at Molasar but its introduction was not successful at Jobdinagar and Jaswantgarh.

There is one grass *bir* at Somra, measuring 92.3 hectares.

Co-operation in Agriculture

The Marwar Co-operative Societies Act was passed in 1923 and Co-operative Department established in Jodhpur State in 1937. The activities of the department were started in *Parganas* of Merta, Nagaur and Parvatsar during the year 1939-40. The co-operative farming movement in the area did not make any headway till the merger of the area into Rajasthan. The first collective farming co-operative society was registered in the district on 17th September, 1956, in Rabdiyad village in Parvatsar tahsil with a membership of 12 persons and having a share capital of Rs. 240. Then followed the formation of the second collective farming society in village Kalvi in Jayal tahsil on 16th June, 1958. This society also had 12 members who subscribed Rs. 240 as share capital. During the Second Five Year Plan, a large number of agricultural credit and agriculutral non-credit societies were organised as is evident from the following data¹:

(Number)

Year	Agricultural Credit Societies		Agricultural non-Credit Societies	
	Number	Members	Number	Members
1956-57	112	3,316	30	482
1957-58	136	4,689	41	634
1958-59	191	7,932	45	660
1959-60	316	19,049	55	800
1960-61	397	26,806	62	909

Thus, the total number of agricultural credit and non-credit societies increased from 142 in 1956-57 to 459 in 1960-61 and their membership from 3,798 to 27,715 during the same period, covering the Second Five Year Plan. A Primary Land Mortgage Bank was set up in 1960-61 with 253 members.

The co-operative movement in agriculture continued to expand during the Third Five Year Plan period. Some details of agricultural co-operative societies and Land Mortgage Bank relating to the period were as follows²:

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.

2. *ibid.*

(Number)

Year	Agricultural Credit Societies		Agricultural non-credit Societies		Primary Land Mortgage Bank	
	No.	Members	No.	Members	No.	Members
1961-62	421	29,847	58	781	1	253
1962-63	434	31,386	58	818	1	289
1963-64	467	33,147	60	844	1	289
1964-65	494	34,584	64	893	1	464
1965-66	496	37,916	75	1,058	1	736

The position of co-operative societies in the field of agriculture during the years 1966-67 to 1969-70 is evident from the figures in the following table¹. Though their membership continued to expand, the number of societies reduced due to their reorganisation :

Year	Agricultural Credit Societies		Agricultural non-credit Societies		Primary Land Mortgage Bank	
	No.	Members	No.	Members	No.	Members
1966-67	500	38,492	75	1,047	1	828
1967-68	503	41,353	74	1,033	1	1,100
1968-69	479	44,289	72	1,016	1	1,146
1969-70	393	48,196	66	1,948	1	1,860

As on 30th June 1970, there were 17 co-operative farming societies with a membership of 284, of whom 206 were land holders, 30 agricultural labourers and 48 others. Paid-up capital of these societies amounted to Rs. 45,255 including Rs. 24,000 contributed by the Government and central financing agencies. The working capital totalled upto Rs. 1,43,790 and loans advanced by the societies amounted to Rs. 16,131. Their borrowings stood at Rs. 97,975 of which Rs. 73,493 were loaned by the Government, Rs. 694 by central financing agencies and the remaining Rs. 23,788 received from other sources.

IRRIGATION

Irrigation by Sources

RIVERS—There is no perennial river flowing through the district, and hence no irrigation from the source is possible.

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.

TANKS AND LAKES—There are only 8 tanks maintained by the State Irrigation Department. Details of these tanks are given in Appendix II. The tank irrigated area measured 136 hectares in 1968-69 and 77 hectares in 1969-70.

The biggest lake of the district having an area of 777 hectares and located about 3 km. south-west of Didwana has saline water and is a principal source of salt and sodium sulphate. It is very shallow and almost dries up in summer. Like all lakes in sandy tracts it is formed by a depression to which the surrounding areas drain themselves. When the rains are heavy and the lake water extends beyond its normal bed it floods the surroundings. Wheat and other crops are sown when the water recedes. There are excellent grazing grounds around the lake. The Nawa tahsil shares a part of the well known Sambhar lake of Jaipur district.

WELLS—Wells are the most important source of irrigation in the district though due to low water level in most areas, digging of wells particularly for irrigational purposes proves uneconomical. The depth of water ranges from 20 metres to 50 metres in case of 70 per cent wells in the district. In Merta, Parvatsar, Nawa (except the northern portions) and Didwana tahsils, the water level is high and irrigation by wells is feasible and convenient. Usually a pair of bullocks is required to lift water upto 30 metres depth but in case the depth is greater, two pairs of bullocks are used. Various means of lifting water employed in the district, depending on the depth of the water level are as follows.

DHENKALI—It is used when the depth of water is not more than two metres. This is a contrivance consisting of a big pole fixed firmly in the ground near the well, the upper end bifurcating into two branches. A piece of wood with a hole in the centre is fixed between the two branches and through the hole passes another pole. To one end of this pole which is farther away from the well, is tied a weight. To the other end is fastened a rope, to the loose side of which is hung the pot or the bucket for drawing water from the well. The length of the rope is reduced by inserting a long bamboo in between its two parts. When water is required to be drawn from the well, the rope is pulled down so that the pot attached to its lower end is immersed below the surface of the water in the well. When it is filled it is pulled up by the weight, the pot comes up at the mouth of the well, the water is collected in a cistern and is distributed through the channels in the field. This device is worked by manual labour. One man is sufficient for the operation of *Dhenkali*, which is used mostly in Nawa tahsil.

SUNDIA—This device is used for lifting water from the well when the water is about 10-12 metres deep. It consists of a leather bag with a proboscis.

PERSIAN WHEEL—This device is made use of for lifting water from the well when the depth is about 25 metres. This method of lifting water is mostly employed in Merta, Degana, Parvatsar and Didwana tahsils. It consists of a number of iron or wooden buckets attached to each other forming a chain. It is driven either by camel or a pair of bullocks. The wooden Persian wheel involves considerable wastage of water during the process of lifting. The iron Persian wheel gives a substantially larger discharge of water as compared to the wooden Persian wheel. When worked with a camel it lifts about five thousand gallons more water per day, than when it is worked with a pair of bullocks.

The number of wells in use and out of use in the district during the years 1965-66 to 1969-70 was as follows¹ :

(Number)			
Year	In use	Out of use	Total
1965-66	8,490	4,213	12,703
1966-67	8,556	4,800	13,356
1967-68	7,200	7,346	14,546
1968-69	9,730	8,393	18,123
1969-70	9,681	8,995	18,676

The total (gross) area of the district irrigated by various sources during the years 1950-51 to 1969-70 is given in the following table² :

(Hectares)					
Year	Canals	Tanks	Wells and tube-wells	Other sources	Total (gross) irrigated area
1950-51	-	-	2,690	-	2,690
1951-52	-	-	1,375	-	1,375
1952-53	-	-	10,431	5	10,436
1953-54	-	-	18,850	27	18,877

1. *Sankhakiya Rooprekha, Nagaur, 1971, p. 32.*

2. Source : Collectorate, Nagaur for the years 1950-51 to 1955-56 and *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years for later years.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1954-55	28	—	19,576	—	19,604
1955-56	—	—	18,718	—	18,718
1956-57*	—	54	18,525	—	18,579
1957-58*	—	70	21,741	2	21,813
1958-59*	—	—	18,310	—	18,310
1959-60	—	14	20,882	1	20,897
1960-61	—	—	20,450	36	20,486
1961-62	5	61	19,607	11	19,684
1962-63	196	260	20,971	15	21,442
1963-64	202	—	19,626	12	19,840
1964-65	—	186	18,585	—	18,711
1965-66*	—	224	15,406	—	15,630
1966-67	—	229	20,615	—	20,844
1967-68	—	264	20,078	—	20,342
1968-69*	132	136	19,836	158	20,262
1969-70	—	77	28,298	169	28,544

Irrigation by crops

A large part i. e. 92.3 per cent of the irrigated area in the district is accounted for by food crops, including wheat, barley and *bajra*. The non-food irrigated crops include cotton, tobacco and certain fodder crops. The figures of irrigated area under major groups of crops during various years is given in the following table¹ :

Year	(Hectares)				
	Food crops (other than sugar-cane)	Sugar-cane	Cotton	Others	Total (gross) irrigated area
1950-51	1,767	—	64	859	2,690
1951-52	898	1	85	391	1,375
1952-53	6,367	—	75	3,994	10,436
1953-54	16,710	1	357	1,809	18,877
1954-55	16,694	13	510	2,387	19,604
1955-56	15,558	3	852	2,305	18,718
1956-57	20,948	1	747	1,596	23,292

* Figures for these years represent net irrigated area.

1, Source : Collectorate, Nagaur for the years 1950-51 to 1955-56 and *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, yearly volumes for figures for 1956-57 onwards.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1957-58	22,573	81	785	1,118	24,557
1958-59	18,691	2	963	1,302	20,958
1959-60	18,942	3	520	1,432	20,897
1960-61	18,578	3	380	1,525	20,486
1961-62	17,782	2	705	1,195	19,684
1962-63	19,416	1	564	1,461	21,442
1963-64	17,522	1	593	1,724	19,840
1964-65	16,667	2	577	1,525	18,711
1965-66	17,006	-	566	1,701	19,273
1966-67	18,217	1	762	1,864	20,844
1967-68	16,492	3	446	3,401	20,342
1968-69	24,070	-	384	1,787	26,241
1969-70	26,079	1	462	2,002	28,544

SOIL EROSION AND CONSERVATION

Soil erosion is a serious problem for the agriculturists specially in the sandy areas. In Nagaur district, it is in the nature of sheet erosion and is caused by strong winds, which blow away the fertile layers of the soil. As the rainfall is scanty, soil erosion due to flow of water poses no problem. The sandy nature of soil, strong winds, scanty rainfall, continuous over grazing and indiscriminate felling of trees are the main causes of soil erosion.

A scheme for soil conservation in the district was taken up during the year 1957-58 under the supervision of the District Agriculture Officer. Later on, the post of the District Soil Conservation Officer was created in 1964-65 and since then he is looking after this work. Besides the Soil Conservation Officer at Nagaur, there is one Agriculture Assistant at the headquarters to assist him in supervising the conservation work in the district. Besides, one Agriculture Assistant has been posted each at Merta, Kuchaman and Degana. The Agriculture Assistant posted at Nagaur looks after the soil conservation work in Nagaur, Mundwa and Jayal Panchayat Samiti areas. The other posted at Merta supervises the work in the areas of Merta and Riyan Panchayat Samitis; the one headquartered at Degana looks after the soil conservation work in Degana and Makrana Panchayat Samitis. Agriculture Assistant at Kuchaman looks after the work in Kuchaman, Parvatsar, Ladnun and Didwana Panchayat Samitis.

Contour bunding, *kana bundi*, *Nala bundi*, construction of *Khadins*,

levelling of land and lining of water channels are the various soil conservation measures adopted in the district. The Soil Conservation Office, after surveying of cultivated farms, suggests the most appropriate measure of conservation of a particular field. The cultivator takes the necessary steps to execute the scheme with his own labour, assisted by the department in the form of free technical guidance, supervision and financial grants upto 60 per cent of the total cost of operations. The work is done on catchment basis.

Contour bunding is done in the cultivated fields which are having slope upto six per cent and the soil is not sandy. *Kana bundi* checks soil erosion caused by blowing of strong winds and is practised in the sandy fields. *Nala bundi* is done in the fields by providing small structure in nullahs which prevents their deepening, gully formation and erosion of soil by water. *Khadins* are constructed to check soil erosion of the fields having hard surface. Land levelling method is used in the fields which have uneven surface. The progress of the work done in the district under the contour bunding scheme has been as follows¹ :

Year	Allotment of funds		Utilisation of funds		Area covered by Soil conservation measure (hectares)
	Loans (Rs.)	Subsidies (Rs.)	Loans (Rs.)	Subsidies (Rs.)	
1957-58	—	8,000	—	8,000	332
1958-59	2,000	18,000	2,000	18,000	28
1959-60	—	7,000	—	3,000	124
1960-61	—	16,000	—	13,000	260
1961-62	33,000	15,500	30,574	13,268	607
1962-63	3,000	5,000	2,831	10,864	285
1963-64	28,500	10,000	7,705	104	290
1964-65	15,000	7,500	22,843	6,196	609
1965-66	37,000	30,000	34,602	8,324	975
1966-67	37,478	1,06,340	37,478	1,06,340	2,030
1967-68	—	30,351	32,970	81,673	1,720
1968-69	18,000	—	63,228	92,210	2,035
1969-70	5,00,000	—	1,85,531	5,56,590	8,395

Besides the District Soil Conservation Office, Nagaur, Central Arid Zone Research Institute of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research

1. Source : The Office of the District Soil Conservation Officer, Nagaur.

is also doing useful work in the field of soil conservation. They have developed grass farms at Molasar, Jobdinagar and Jaswantgarh which have covered a total area of 234 hectares.

AGRICULTURE

Soils

No detailed survey of the soils in the district has been conducted so far. Settlement Department has, however, classified the soil into *Barani* (unirrigated) and *chahi* (irrigated) etc. The area comprising a part of Nagaur tahsil and south-eastern portion of Merta tahsil has deep sandy loam soil. In Merta tahsil, except the banks of Luni river, the soil is red loamy. In Parvatsar tahsil, the area just below the range of mountains has light loamy soil which is conducive to the production of wheat, barley, maize and chillies. The northern portion of Nawa tahsil is the projection of Shekhawati desert where sand dunes are plentiful and water level very low. In the middle portion of this tahsil, round about Kuchaman, the soil is sandy, but due to its forming a depression, it has a comparatively higher water level. The north-western portion of Nagaur tahsil is the continuation of the Bikaner desert. Didwana tahsil has sandy soil except the saucer shaped depression near Didwana town which has sticky black soil, and is absolutely unsuitable for cultivation due to high percentage of salt in its composition. An area called *Khari Patti* extends from Didwana to Nawa and overlaps the Sambhar salt lake area. This region has alkaline water which is not fit for irrigation. The areas having sand dunes are highly undulating and when the strong winds blow, the cream of the soil which is fertile is blown away. The sand dunes are not fit for agriculture and no vegetation can grow on them. The general texture of the soils in Nagaur district is sandy to sandy loam and clay loam. They can be classified under the following main heads:

BAIKAL—The most prevalent soil in the district; a light sand having little or no earthy admixture and is fit for the cultivation of *Bajra*, *moth*, water melons and other cucurbitaceous plants.

CHIKNA—A clay, black earth producing chiefly wheat.

PILA—Yellow sandy clay suitable for cultivation of barley, tobacco, onions and vegetables.

SAFEDI—Soil of siliceous nature which can be used for agricultural production only after heavy rains.

KHARI—Alkaline earth poisonous to all types of vegetation.

Crops

There are two main crop seasons, the *kharif*, locally known as *Sawnu* and the *rabi* or *Unalu*.

Kharif crops are purely rain fed. Their sowing begins with the first fall of rains, usually about the early July, and extends to the end of August. When the rainy season commences the land is ploughed and the seed is planted deep into the ground. After it has sprouted, even a few showers at long intervals bring it to maturity. As the light built camels are quick movers, each household is able to put a large area of land under crops. The produce in a favourable season is quite sufficient. These crops are harvested between September and November. The main *kharif* crops of the district are *Jowar*, *Bajra*, and *kharif* pulses (*urd* and *moong*). The proportion of out-turn of foodgrains from *kharif* to that from *rabi* for the district as a whole is 11 to 5.

Rabi crops are grown where water is available for irrigation. These crops are sown usually in October and November. The important crops of *rabi* season are wheat, barley and rape and mustard. These crops are harvested between April and May.

A short description of the principal crops grown in the district is given below:

BAJRA (*Pennisetum typhoideum Pers*)—*Bajra* or spiked millet is the staple food of the majority of the people and is extensively grown in the district. The crop does not need much water. Low rainfall and warm climate of the district are suitable to its cultivation. The land is ploughed two or three times. The tillage begins by the end of March and continues till the end of April. It needs lesser degree of tillage as compared to *Jowar*. The seed is sown in rows with the first fall of sufficient rains. It takes seventy to ninety days for the crop to ripen. *Bajra* is generally grown pure but sometimes mixed with *moth*, *mang* or cowpea. It is usually neither watered nor manured. It ripens best when the climate is moderately dry. The weeding is done when the crop is six to nine inches high, but in case the crop has been sown in deep field and in the sandy soil, the weeding is postponed till the crop reaches the height of about ten inches. The seed rate varies from 1 kg. to 2 kg. per acre for pure crop and $\frac{3}{4}$ kg. to $1\frac{1}{4}$ kg. per acre for mixed crop. There are two varieties of *bajra* grown in the district viz. *desi* and hybrid.

JOWAR (*Sorghum vulgare pers*)—*Jowar* or great millet requires a stiffer soil and better rains than *Bajra*. It has the second largest area under cultivation in the district. It is sown in early July. *Jowar* is ideally suited to areas where rainfall is moderate. Excessive soil moisture and prolonged drought both are harmful to the crop. Soil preparation, tillage as also sowing and inter-culture periods of *Jowar* are similar to *Bajra*. But *Jowar* takes a little longer to ripen. The crop is grown pure or mixed with one or two pulses or oilseeds. Land is ploughed twice or thrice producing compact soil at the root zone. The seed rate for hybrid *jowar* (grain crop) ranges from 7 kg. to 10 kg. per hectare, while for *desi jowar* (grain crop) it ranges from 6 kg. to 15 kg. per hectare. Owing to insufficient rainfall *Jowar* does not thrive well in the district and therefore stalks are often cut while green and are used as green fodder. They are also stored and fetch a better price than *karab* (dry stalks). *Jowar* is harvested in November and December. When the crop is ripe, the heads are cut off and the stalks (*karab*) are carefully stocked for fodder for cattle. *Chari-jowar* for fodder is sown early in April and May and is harvested in late May or early June.

Jowar and *bajra* are the only cereals whose stalks (*karab*) are used as fodder in the natural state. *Jowar* grain is used as cereal for making bread but sometimes it is also parched and *phuli* is prepared. Unripe *Jowar* heads form chief item of food of the masses in the district.

WHEAT (*Triticum sativum*)—Locally known as *gehun*, it is the chief *rabi* crop. Wheat grown in the district is of two kinds, *piwal* and *sewaj*. The former is grown on irrigated lands attached to wells. If irrigated by saline water it is called *Kharchia* and if by sweet water as *Mithania*. The first variety of wheat is preferred for human consumption. For sowing *Kharchia* wheat, the soil is prepared in a most careful manner during the rainy season by repeated ploughing. If sufficient moisture is not available, the land is first given some watering and then ploughed repeatedly. The grain is sown in the middle of October through a tube attached to the plough or furrow. The crop takes four months to mature and requires four to seven waterings. The average seed rate is about one quintal per hectare and the average yield comes to 10 to 25 quintals per hectare. The crop is reaped with a sickle and collected into bundles. It is usually harvested when it is fairly dry and is threshed after a week when it is completely free from moisture. The straw known as *khakla* is used as fodder for cattle.

The second variety of wheat known as *sewaj* is grown on land flooded by the rains, known as *relani*. The ground for sowing is prepared as in the case of *piwal* and when the rains cease and water dries up, the field

is prepared for sowing. The soil found in Merta tahsil and parts of Nagaur tahsil suits the growth of *sewaj* wheat. The average yield of this variety comes to four to eight quintals per hectare.

BARLEY (*Hordeum vulgare*)—Locally known as *Jav*, barley is a staple food of the poor classes. It does not require so rich a soil and care as wheat. The crop is rarely manured. The method of cultivation is similar to that of *piwal* wheat except that it requires fewer waterings. It is chiefly grown in Parvatsar, Nawa and Merta tahsils of the district and is provided irrigation from wells having sweet water. The seed rate for grain crop is 70 to 100 kg. per hectare. The yield varies from 13 to 14 quintals per hectare. The crop is allowed to mature fully before it is harvested towards the end of March to early May.

GRAM—(*Cicer arietinum*) Gram or chick-pea is locally known as *chana*. It is a *rabi* crop and forms one of the most important pulse crops of the district. It is cultivated mostly in Merta, Parvatsar and parts of Nagaur tahsils which abound in loamy soil. The land is ploughed two to three times before sowing in October and in heavy soils harrowed once with *kurli*. If rain falls in December and January, a rich crop is assured but for the danger of damage by frost. When the crop begins to branch off, the leading shoots are nipped to ensure heavier bushes and better yield, and the cuttings serve as a vegetable. Gram ripens between the months of February and April when it is harvested with the help of a sickle and is uprooted when the growth is poor. It is sown either pure or mixed with wheat or barley locally known as *Bejar* or *Gochni* respectively. Its cultivation as a *rabi* crop on virgin soils is preferred. When the late rains fail or when the land cannot be prepared properly for wheat, this crop is substituted to avoid a total failure. The seed rate is about 60 to 75 kg per hectare. Seed is sown deep and forces its way up even if there is a good layer of soil on the top of germinating seed. The out-turn comes to about twelve quintals per hectare. It is used for making bread and as *dal*. Parched gram is also eaten by the poor who relish it after seasoning it with salt and chillies or with *gur*.

OTHER PULSES—Besides gram, pulses grown in the district include *moong*, *moth*, *urd*, *masoor*, *chaula* and *arhar*. All these are *kharif* crops except *masoor*. The area under *rabi* pulses excluding gram is negligible. The *kharif* pulses are sown usually mixed with *bajra* or *jowar*, and are seldom grown alone. The yield comes to two to three quintals per hectare. They are sown in July and are harvested in September and October. They do not require any manuring or irrigation. Some of these are used as vegetables when green and as *dal* when dry.

OILSEEDS—*Til* (Sesamum), *rai* and *sarson* (rape and mustard) and groundnut are the important oilseeds grown in the district. *Alsi* (linseed) and *arandi* (castor seed) are also cultivated but on a negligible area of land. Sesamum is sown a little later than the other *kharif* crops, usually unmixed with other crops though sometimes it is mixed with *bajra* or *jowar*. Tillage for groundnut is done from the end of March to the end of April and the sowing with the first fall of regular rains in the end of June or beginning of July. It does not require any irrigation. The inter-culture is undertaken in the months of September and October, and the crop is harvested in late October and early November. The average out-turn comes to two to three quintals per hectare.

COTTON—Cotton is the only important fibre crop of the district as the other fibre crop, sunnhemp is cultivated only in a very small area. Cotton is mainly grown in Parvatsar and Merta tahsils of this district. It flourishes best in stiff loam soil. The fields are ploughed two or three times and seed is sown after rubbing in cow dung through broadcast method in April and May. Plants are weeded twice or thrice before they begin to flower in September–October. The crop is ready to be picked in September and October. The average yield is about eight to nine quintals of *kapas* (seed and lint) per hectare. Seed is separated from the lint either with the help of machine or hand mill (*charkhi*), and the former is used to feed milch cows and she-buffaloes. It helps to increase the fat content of the milk. When rainfall is copious, cotton is grown without watering but the out-turn in that case is considerably less.

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES—Due to paucity of irrigation facilities and scanty rainfall, fruit gardens are almost non-existent. Watermelon (*matira*) is the main fruit which is grown in the district. It is available in plenty and is eaten by human beings as well as by cattle. During years of famine, the seeds of *matira* are also pounded and mixed with flour of some cereals, used for human consumption. Other fruits available in limited supply are grapes, papaya, *ber* and lemon etc. They are not grown here as commercial crops. Potatoes, sweet potatoes, tomatoes, brinjals, *methi* and *gajar* are some of the vegetables which are grown in small quantities in the district. Fruits and vegetables are grown sparsely round about the towns in the district to cater to their demand.

Figures of the area under cultivation and the production of important crops of the district for the last twelve years ending 1969–70 have been given in appendix III.

Agricultural Operations

The agricultural operations undertaken by the cultivators of the district are of the simplest type. When new land is to be brought into use, the bushes and shrubs are cut down and either burnt on the spot in order to fertilise the soil, or used as fencing for the fields. The ground is then roughly levelled.

PLOUGHING—Ploughing is generally done with the help of camels and bullocks, after the first fall of sufficient rain, or earlier if the soil is soft. The land is ploughed once, twice or thrice according to the stiffness of the soil. If the soil is very hard, even four to eight ploughings have to be undertaken. Ploughing is done every time before sowing as it softens the land, digs out deep rooted weeds or stubbles, and aerates the soil.

HARROWING—After ploughing, harrowing is done in order to break up the clods and level the fields to enable them to retain the moisture.

MANURING—The importance of manuring the field is being very much realised these days. Cultivators in this district used to manure the fields growing commercial crops only. This was because of scarcity of farm manure and inability of the cultivator to procure it because of his poverty. Chemical fertilisers are now becoming quite popular, thanks to the propaganda made by the Agriculture Department regarding their advantages and also arrangements made for their distribution. Moreover as cattle dung is very commonly used for fuel in rural areas, its dearth, is acutely felt for manurial purposes. Manure is applied to the fields attached to wells, on which wheat, barley, cotton and other such crops are cultivated. The dung hill (*okharli*) consisting of cattle dung, straw, house-sweepings and all sorts of refuse is put up outside the village just before the rains. In sandy tracts, where the fields are large, a common method of manuring a field is by allowing the cattle, sheep and goats to stay on it over night. A flock of about 200 animals sitting for eight to ten nights in a *bigha* of land supplies sufficient manure for the area. Camels are also similarly used because their urine is a source of rich manure. The owner of the sheep, goats or camels who allows them to stay in the field is recompensed either in cash or in kind. Chemical fertilisers such as ammonium sulphate, ammonium sulphate nitrate and superphosphate are more popular as manures. These are distributed free to the farmers by the Agriculture Department for laying out demonstration

plots. Progress made regarding the use of manures and fertilisers in the district is given below¹ :

Year	Distribution of fertilisers		Area under green manure (hectares)	Compost prepared (tonnes)	Night soil prepared (tonnes)
	Nitrogenous (tonnes)	Superphosphate (tonnes)			
1954-55	7.5	2.0	8	47	—
1955-56	13.7	5.0	9	15	—
1956-57	9.0	4.7	10	45	—
1957-58	3.7	5.6	11	7	—
1958-59	4.8	14.0	15	52	—
1959-60	5.1	13.7	21	54	—
1960-61	42.3	63.8	40	57	58
1961-62	63.6	36.5	124	27	27
1962-63	48.8	30.0	426	16	35
1963-64	59.3	33.4	296	—	68
1964-65	87.4	37.3	153	—	70
1965-66	114.0	47.1	243	1,032	21,616
1966-67	225.2	78.8	656	55,281	5,011
1967-68	328.3	73.1	—	75,479	3,770
1968-69	380.7	94.6	—	3,716	4,275
1969-70	420.0	80.0	—	1,09,747	2,220

SOWING—The process of sowing is called *bijari*. The seed is sometimes scattered broadcast specially in case of *til* and *bajra*, but generally it is done by means of a bamboo drill attached to the plough. Sowing is usually taken up after one or two rains. If the rainfall is insufficient, the sowing is abandoned.

WEEDING—When sowing is complete and the crop has sprouted and reached the level of three to seven inches the weeding operation commences. The dry *rabi* crops require no weeding by hand but in the case of irrigated crops like potatoes and vegetables, they have to be weeded out a couple of times. Even wheat and barley are weeded in case excessive weeds infest the field. In case of *kharif* crops weeding is done by passing a plough in between consecutive furrows after the crop has acquired a height of about one foot. If the soil is not wet, the plants are thinned out

1. Source : Office of the District Agriculture Officer, Nagaur.

by hand for *jowar* and *bajra* as the distance between the two plants is kept from 12 inches to 18 inches. After a week or two of the completion of the thinning operations, the field is weeded by hand.

PROTECTION—Scare crows (*Arwa*) are erected to frighten away birds, cattle, deer and wild pigs. Sometimes a woman or a boy is engaged to watch the crops, who sits on a scaffold called *Machan* raised to the height of 4 to 5 metres above the ground at a point of vantage from where she or he hurls stones from a sling (*gopan*), or else cracks a whip (*phatakha*) made from the fibre of sunnhemp or other such material. Sometimes empty kerosene tin is also beaten with a stick to create noise which frightens the birds and animals.

HARVESTING—The reaping (*loani*) is done by cultivators assisted by their women folk and sometimes hired daily wage workers. Stalks bearing ears of corn such as *bajra*, wheat or barley are cut down with sickle (*dantli*) while those bearing pods such as gram are uprooted. Pulses are mostly cut as whole plants. Vegetables are picked by hand and leafy ones are uprooted. Root crops like potatoes, and groundnut are harvested by digging with spade. These are placed by the reaper in a bag worn on the body and are eventually deposited at a pre-arranged spot, whence these are taken in carts or on camels.

THRESHING—The threshing ground is usually located in the vicinity of the village. The ground is cleaned and made hard and smooth by watering and ramming it with wooden sticks. To prevent it from becoming dusty a coating of cow dung is applied. The process of threshing is called *gaita*. An upright post (*med* or *keel*), about two metres high, is fixed in the centre and the threshing floor is usually hedged round by a thick wall or stalks. The heads of corn are strewn over the floor in a heap round the post (*med*), two or four bullocks or camels yoked abreast, tied by a rope to the post and driven over the ears of corn to separate the grain from chaff. The bullocks are usually muzzled.

WINNOWING—Next process is that of winnowing. Services of three persons are employed for this process. One person stands on a stool about a metre high called *tarpay*. Another man hands him over the basket of the grain and husk. When there is sufficient wind the person on the stool simply empties the basket slowly, while the third person separates the grain from chaff with the help of a broom. The chaff is used as fodder. The cultivators keep a *dantli* (sickle) buried in the heap of grain in order to ward off evil spirits. Of late, however, winnowing machines are gradually coming into use at some places and have been found to be very useful in

saving time of the cultivators, and they enable them to winnow their grain rapidly even when there is no wind at all.

STORING—Grains are stored either for the purposes of seed, or for consumption, or for sale at a later date. Storage methods, therefore, differ according to the quantity of the grain. The seed is preserved in cylindrical bins called *kothas* made of earth and cattle dung. This method is cheap and effective in keeping off the insects that might attack it from outside. But many grains have small insects or eggs in them before storing. To save the seed from their onslaught, dry *neem* leaves and cow dung ash are mixed in the grain. In case the grains are stored for future consumption or sale they are stored in underground pits or in cellars in residential buildings. Before storing, however, the grain is thoroughly dried and *neem* leaves and cow dung ash are mixed with it. Nowadays, the co-operative societies are also helping the cultivators in storing the grains and 19 godowns had been constructed by the co-operative societies in the district till 30th June, 1970¹.

Rotation of crops

Rotation of crops is not practised in a systematic manner but is quite common both in *rabi* and *kharif* crops. The crop rotations usually followed in the district are as follows :

UNIRRIGATED CROPS :

ONE YEAR —

Bajra—fallow

Jowar—fallow

Jowar—*moth*—fallow

Til—*moth*—fallow

Guar—fallow

Fallow—wheat

Fallow—coriander

Fallow—gram

TWO YEARS—

Bajra—fallow—*Guar*—Fallow

Jowar—fallow—fallow—gram

Til—fallow—*Bajra*—fallow

Bajra—fallow—fallow—wheat

1. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Nagaur.

THREE YEARS—

Bajra—fallow—*guar*—fallow—*jowar*—fallow
Til—fallow—groundnut—fallow—*bajra*—*moth*—fallow

IRRIGATED CROPS :

Maize—gram—*til*—coriander—*guar*—wheat

ONE YEAR—

Bajra—wheat
Guar—wheat
 Vegetables—vegetables
Bajra—barley
Jowar—barley
Bajra or *Jowar*—rape and mustard

TWO YEARS—

Bajra—wheat—*guar*—wheat
Jowar—gram—*bajra*—barley
 Maize—coriander—cucurbits—wheat
 Tomatoes—wheat—groundnut—barley
Guar—cauliflower—*jowar*—barley
 Groundnut—mustard—potatoes—tomatoes

Double Cropping

Double cropping is very sparsely practised due to the absence of assured means of irrigation. It is resorted to a certain extent on the irrigated lands and also where the soil can retain moisture. A few short seasoned *kharif* crops like maize and *moong* are first raised and if it rains in October-November, gram is also cultivated. Double cropped area measured just ten hectares in 1969-70 as against four hectares in 1965-66.

Mixed Cropping

Mixed cropping is practised to guard against the danger of a total failure, as also for household requirements. Except under special circumstances, leguminous crops are not grown single but are mixed with main crops. Maize is the most common crop sown on the double cropped area. Crops like *urd*, *moong* are also widely sown with the main crops of maize or *jowar*. Gram is more often sown mixed with barley, when it is known as *Bejar*. The mixture is so arranged that all crops do not ripe at the same time but with an interval of about a fortnight or more. This reduces the rush of labour at one time to a considerable extent. Cotton is seldom mixed with any crop except hemp. The ratio of mixture of various crops is as follows :

1. Bajra — moth
50 : 50
2. Wheat — barley — mustard
45 : 45 : 10
3. Wheat — Gram
50 : 50

Agricultural Implements

The improved agricultural implements are being introduced in the district gradually, mainly through the efforts of the State Agriculture Department. Various implements have been distributed by the department details of which are given below¹ :

(Number)

Year	Ploughs	Chaff cutters	Others
1954-55	17	22	3
1955-56	8	11	7
1956-57	15	35	21
1957-58	22	32	14
1958-59	47	38	53
1959-60	90	71	15
1960-61	135	107	—
1961-62	127	97	23
1962-63	149	82	45
1963-64	142	72	33
1964-65	180	149	40
1965-66	233	194	107
1966-67	483	410	260
1967-68	132	114	63
1968-69	422	208	197
1969-70	396	267	151

The number of different types of agricultural implements and machinery in use in the district at the time of the three quinquennial Census of 1956, 1961 and 1966 are given in the following table :

1. Source : Office of the District Agriculture Officer, Nagaur.

(Number)

Implements	1956 ¹	1961 ²	1966 ³
Ploughs	98,183	1,04,316	1,16,269
Carts	46,816	46,607	56,856
Sugar-cane crushers	36	34	28
Oil engines with pumps for irrigation purposes	38	51	88
Electric pumps for irrigation purposes	5	8	101
Tractors	31	67	280
Ghanis	966	709	881
Persian wheels	N.R.	107	561
Improved Implements :			
Harrow and cultivators	N.R.	N.R.	163
Seed Drills	N.R.	N.R.	20
Threshers	N.R.	N.R.	2
Rotary Chaff Cutters	N.R.	N.R.	11
Sprayer and Dusters	N.R.	N.R.	11

The above figures reveal that the number of electric pumps and tractors has recorded a significant increase during the decade 1956-66.

Seeds

The improved seeds are becoming popular with the cultivators due to the resultant increase in the yield of crops. They are released direct to the cultivators by the State Agriculture Department at the time of sowing or through Panchayat Samitis. The high yielding varieties of seeds were first introduced in the district by the department in the year 1966 and their use has increased gradually. Since the introduction of high yielding varieties programme, the hybrid seeds, as well as their other improved varieties are being supplied through the National Seeds Corporation and seeds certified by it are distributed to the cultivators. As regards improved seeds like wheat RS 31-1 and barley RS-17 and other improved local varieties, they are allotted to the Panchayat Samitis from the two seed multiplication farms in the district, located at Riyan and Harsor.

1. *The Rajasthan Quinquennial Livestock Census Report, 1956*, pp. 20-21.

2. *Report on the Livestock Census of Rajasthan, 1961*, pp. 56-57.

3. *Report on the Livestock Census of Rajasthan, 1966*, pp. 92-93.

N. R.=Not Recorded.

The important improved varieties introduced in the district are HB-I and HB-2 of *bajra*, CSH-I of *jowar* and Ganga-3 of maize. As regards wheat, Sonara-64, PV-18, S-227, S-308, Kalyansona, Sharbati and Lal Bahadur have been introduced. RS-17 and RS-6 are the popular improved varieties of barley. Quantities of improved seed distributed in the district have been as follows¹:

Particulars	(Quintals)								
	1961 -62	1962 -63	1963 -64	1964 -65	1965 -66	1966 -67	1967 -68	1968 -69	1969 -70
<i>Bajra</i>	—	—	—	16.8	345	—	20	56	71
<i>Jowar</i>	—	—	—	4.9	674	—	6	9	7
Maize	—	—	—	—	—	—	3	9	6
Groundnut	3.7	22.4	4.1	6.3	79	176	—	—	—
Cotton	—	6.7	6.3	10.1	65	26	730	15	13
Wheat (Sonara-64)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	560	579
„ -(Mexican)	—	—	—	110	—	—	—	—	—
„ -(Kalyansona)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	50	58
„ -(S-227)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	80	82
„ -(S-308)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	30	31
„ -(RS-31-1)	—	—	73	85	256	1835	—	440	451
„ -(Other varieties)	—	—	—	—	—	120	—	—	—
Barley	—	—	—	—	476	704	—	380	400
Gram	—	—	—	—	832	61	—	—	—

Crop Diseases and Pests

No major crop disease has been reported from the district, but, *bajra* and *jowar* the principal crops of the district are affected by green-ear disease and smut, though the percentage of infestation is very low. When infected with green-ear disease, the ears of plants are transformed wholly or partially into loose head of small, twisted green leaf-like structures, and the affected leaves become white and later brown. Smut disease appears on ears from the time of grain formation. The affected ears do not produce grain but turn into bright green, pear-shaped bodies projecting prominently beyond glumes which later become brown, and

1. Source : Office of the District Agriculture Officer, Nagaur.

when old, dirty black. Wheat is affected by *tendu* which make plant curl. The traditional remedies employed by the cultivators consist of the use of cow-dung ash, kerosene oil etc. But now the scientific methods of plant protection are being employed and the State Agriculture Department has started spraying pesticides.

Animals, rodents, birds and pests damage the crop in the district. The animals are usually stray cattle and jackals; the birds include parrots, crows, and bats; and the rodents comprise rats and rabbits. Crops are also damaged by monkeys, sparrows and squirrels etc. The common means of protection are fencing and keeping proper watch. Grass hoppers, babels, gram cut worm, caterpillars, white ants, *katara* (yellow pest) and locusts are the main pests damaging crops in the district.

Swarms of locust also sometimes visit the district and are very dangerous to crops. Whenever there is a locust invasion, the entire crop, the trees and other plants are totally devoured by the locusts leaving only the trunks, the naked branches and the stems. Control of crop pests is the responsibility of the State Government, but due to their enormous capacity to quick devastation, the visitations of locusts are treated as a national problem. The Government of India maintains a permanent Locust Warning Organisation to keep a watch over the potential breeding areas so that timely warnings are issued to control them and measures are undertaken, whenever necessary, with the active co-operation of the State Government. The then Jodhpur Government participated in the desert locust scheme initiated by the Government of India with the result that damage to crops was negligible. The Locust out-posts at Nagaur and Didwana were opened during the years 1947 and 1948 respectively. The Government notified a reward of Rs. 2 for first information of the appearance of the locust swarm, and eggs laid or hoppers emerged, while those who extracted eggs were awarded at the rate of Rs. 2 per seer and those who collected fliers were given Re. 1 per 100 adults (locust) collected and presented.

At present (1969-70) the Locust Warning Organisation has two permanent out-posts in Nagaur district located at Didwana and Nagaur. These out-posts are fully equipped with technical staff, insecticides, application equipment, vehicles and wireless sets to meet any emergency due to locust invasion. The position of staff at these out-posts as on 31st March, 1970 was as follows:

Official	Nagaur out-post	Didwana out-post
Locust Warning Officer	1	-
Asstt. Locust Warning Officers	2	1
Junior Technical Assistants	2	1
Locust Mukaddam	1	1
Caretaker Mechanic	1	-
Drivers	2	1
Messenger-cum-cleaners	2	1

Departmental Activities

During the princely State times the area included in Nagaur district had one branch of the then Jodhpur State Agriculture Department at Merta, the headquarters of the *Hakumat*, working since 1938-39. One field demonstrator was posted in this *Hakumat* for carrying out demonstrations and propaganda work under the instructions of Plant Institute, Indore. Demonstrations and distribution of improved varieties of seeds and manufacture of compost were carried out on a very limited scale.

In January, 1950 the office of the District Agriculture Officer was established at Nagaur with a view to making arrangements for the procurement and supply of improved seeds and improved agricultural implements, and to give technical guidance to the cultivators regarding the use of tractors, installation of electric pumps, and soil conservation measures etc. This office is responsible for implementation of various developmental schemes regarding agricultural production framed by the Directorate of Agriculture, Rajasthan. The staff posted at Nagaur as on 31st March, 1970, consisted of a District Agriculture Officer, three agriculture assistants, eight fieldmen, one accounts clerk, one upper division clerk, two lower division clerks, a driver and four class IV employees. Besides, one Agriculture Extension Officer is posted in each of the Panchayat Samitis.

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND FISHERIES

Fodder

The area under fodder crops in the district measured 1,83,266 hectares in 1969-70. Grasses commonly found in the district included

bhambar, bhurut, dabra, dachar dhawan, danalia, kanti, sewan etc. Rains, when plentiful help the growth of a variety of pasture grasses and plants. The sand hills are partly covered with shrubs and coarse grass and around the villages they serve as pastures to the flocks of sheep and herds of cattle. The areas round about the villages and along migration routes are seen overcrowded with cattle in search of fodder. The scarcity of water, a common feature in most years, coupled with the shifting nature of sand dunes swallowing up even the wretched pasture grounds, present insurmountable fodder difficulties for the cattle, and the only way open to the cattle breeders is to leave the area with their cattle in search of food and fodder elsewhere whenever scarcity conditions foreshadow. As famine relief measure, facilities for obtaining fodder are provided all along the routes of the migratory cattle by opening grass depots and forest reserves at various stages. During the year 1969-70 twenty three grass depots were functioning in the district, location of which are given in Appendix IV.

The dried-up straw of cultivated cereals like *jowar, bajra*, maize, wheat and barley forms the most important source of cattle feed. Stems and plant residual of leguminous crops like gram and other pulses are also used for the purpose. The taste and digestibility of straw is improved by mixing it with green *chari jowar*, cotton seed etc. *Chipta* (*jowar* fodder) is very common in this area. The *jowar* sown in August-September is known as *Rodla Chipta* and other one sown in October-November is known as *Paralo Chipta*, which needs no rain. The *jowar* plants when they reach the height of about one metre are pulled out and kept in shade for drying with a view to retain vitamins. This fodder (*Chipta*) is particularly given to bullocks. The leaves of shrubs constitute very good fodder for cattle. *Guar* is the most important fodder crop. It is mainly used for feeding milch cows and buffaloes as it increases the yield of milk.

The Central Arid Zone Research Institute has initiated the grass land development scheme in Molasar, Jobdinagar and Jaswantgarh areas of the district to develop its feed and fodder resources. The areas under these grass lands extend to about 234 hectares. The details of the scheme has been given in the section on afforestation of this chapter.

Livestock

The main wealth of desert lands consists of vast herds of camels, cattle and sheep which roam over its sandy wastes, nibbling at the stray sprouts that cover them. In the absence of favourable conditions for agriculture, cattle breeding provides the most important alternative source

of livelihood for the majority of the rural population of the district. The district, therefore, predominates in draught animals.

The population of animals in Nagaur district at the last three quinquennial livestock censuses of 1956, 1961 and 1966 is given in Appendix V.

CATTLE—Cattle are extensively bred in this district. They provide the principal motive power in the traditional type of farming. The cattle found in this district belong to *Nagauri* breed, which originated in the area round about Nagaur. The *Nagauri* breed is considered to be one of the best breeds of cattle in the country. Its characteristic features are white or light green colour, long narrow face with a flat forehead, long ears, small tail, four to nine inches long and stumpy horns bending with their growth. The *Nagauri* bullocks are famous for their beauty and speed in carts and chariots and have great stamina. The *Nagauri* cow provides good source of milk and its products like curd and *ghee*. A great number of *Nagauri* breed bullocks are sold at Nagaur and Parvatsar fairs. Ordinarily the cost of a *Nagauri* calf is Rs. 1,000 and a grown-up one sells at Rs. 1,300. The maximum price paid for a *Nagauri* bullock was Rs. 4,845 in the year 1969 in the Parvatsar fair. At Nagaur fair, the maximum price paid for a pair of bullocks was Rs. 6,300 in 1969.

CATTLE BREEDING FARM, NAGOUR—A farm was set up at Separ (Pali District) in 1936 by the then ruler of Jodhpur State. In the initial stages, only some cows of *Nagauri* breed were purchased and bred there. In 1950, all these animals were shifted to Nagaur and were kept in the open in the veterinary hospital building. In 1960, some buildings were constructed, about 3 km. away from Nagaur at the site of the cattle fair. This place was selected owing to the location of a *baori* (step well) nearby. As no land was earmarked for growing fodder, the neighbouring areas were acquired to feed the cattle kept in the farm. Later, however, a piece of land having an area of about 50 hectares was set apart for being used by this farm. Out of 50 hectares, 10 hectares have been utilised for construction of buildings, the remaining area is kept for growing fodder. In the year 1964, an area of about 8 hectares was enclosed with wire fencing and cultivation of napier grass was started which continued till the year 1966. But since 1966, only 0.5 hectares of land is being used for cultivation of napier grass, and in the remaining area the fodder crops are grown. The details of some of the activities of Cattle Breeding Farm, Nagaur have been as follows¹ :

1. Source : Office of the Superintendent, Cattle Breeding Farm, Nagaur.

(Number)

Year	Cattle at farm	Bulls Distributed
1951-56	N.A.*	19
1956-57	N.A.*	15
1957-58	N.A.*	24
1958-59	N.A.*	27
1959-60	276	23
1960-61	303	27
1961-62	274	39
1962-63	202	33
1963-64	172	70
1964-65	179	19
1965-66	210	41
1966-67	204	23
1967-68	203	29
1968-69	221	37
1969-70	269	15

GAUSHALAS—During the year 1969-70, there were thirteen *gaushalas* having about 1,300 cattle, of which about 200 were lame, blind and unproductive. Seven *gaushalas* were taken under the Gaushala Development Scheme, and grants-in-aid were given to them to enable them to develop into scientific breeding centres. The following *gaushalas* have been selected for the purpose¹: 1. Sri Gaushala Pinjrapol, Merta City, 2. Sri Gopal Gaushala, Didwana, 3. Sri Krishna Gaushala, Mundwa, 4. Sri Ramanand Gaushala, Ladnun, 5. Sri Ram Gaushala, Nagaur, 6. Sri Govind Gaushala, Nawa and 7. Sri Gaushala, Kuchaman City.

In addition to the above mentioned *gaushalas*, there were six more *gaushalas* in the district, viz., Sri Somani Gaushala, Molasar, Sri Ganga Gaushala, Chhoti Khatu, Sri Anath Goraksha Samiti, Deh, Sri Chamunda Devi Gaushala, Tarnau and Sri Gaushala, Makrana.

Under the Gaushala Development Scheme, during 1955-56, last year of the First Five Year Plan grants-in-aid of Rs. 4,800 were given to the Sri Gaushala, Kuchaman City with a condition that the Gaushala will purchase ten cows of improved breed from its own resources. During the Second Five Year Plan four more *gaushalas* (Sri Pinjrapol Gaushala, Merta

* N.A. : Not Available.

1. Chhabra, Basanti Lal, *Rajasthan Men Gaushalayan*, 1970, p. 61.

City, Sri Gopal Gaushala, Didwana, Sri Krishna Gaushala, Mundwa and Sri Ramanand Gaushala, Landun) were covered under this scheme and during the Third Five Year Plan another two *gaushalas* (Sri Ram Gaushala, Nagaur and Sri Govind Gaushala, Nawa) were included in the Gaushala Development Scheme. Year-wise details of grants-in-aid given to the seven *gaushalas* of the district are as follows¹ :

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1955-56	4,800
1956-57	—
1957-58	22,400
1958-59	17,860
1959-60	7,200
1960-61	20,220
1961-62	15,250
1962-63	21,560
1963-64	16,800
1964-65	12,300
1965-66	4,600
1966-67	5,100
1967-68	1,000

Pure breed bulls were given to the *gaushalas* by the Government of Rajasthan. Improved varieties of leguminous fodder crops and silage technique have also been introduced in the *gaushalas* of the district to improve the quality of cattle feed.

BUFFALOES—Buffaloes formed nearly 7 per cent of the livestock population of the district in 1966. She-buffaloes are kept for milk and he-buffaloes are used as draught animals. They generally graze in the village pastures in the day time and at night they are kept in the enclosures or under roofs. Buffaloes here are mostly of *desi* and *Murrah* breeds.

There is no Government dairy farm in the district. The number of private dairy farms was seventeen as on 31st March, 1970, located at the following places² .

1. Chhabra, Basanti Lal, *op. cit.*, Appendix 8.

2. Source : Office of the District Animal Husbandry Officer, Nagaur.

Sl. No.	Location of dairy farm	Tahsil
1.	Sirasla	Merta
2.	Ganthia	"
3.	Sankwas	Nagaur
4.	Shelagaon	"
5.	Kerap	Didwana
6.	Bari	"
7.	Gular	Parvatsar
8.	Badoo	"
9.	Jaola	"
10.	Urwar	Jayal
11.	Bakauliya	Ladnun
12.	Degana	Degana
13-15.	Pundlota (three)	Degana
16.	Mahareypura	Nawa
17.	Kesari	"

CAMELS—The camel is particularly useful in a desert area. It is used for riding and pulling vehicles and as a beast of burden. It is also employed in agricultural operations. It is the most convenient and fastest common means of transport and conveyance in the sandy region. The she-camel is usually kept only for breeding purposes. Camel-milk is used both as medicine and an article of diet by Raikas (Rebaris) and other similar classes. The camels provide fair amount of wool used for the manufacture of strings and their skin is used for making jars and big bottles for keeping *ghee* and oil. Thus, it is a multipurpose animal whose cost of maintenance is insignificant. The camels of this area are larger and stronger and more enduring than those of Jaisalmer, but they are slower in speed. The price of an ordinary camel ranged between Rs. 500 and 1,000 during the year 1969-70.

GOATS—Goats are mainly bred in the district for milk and meat. They constitute the main source of animal food consumed in the country. The important breeds of this district are *Marwari* and *Lohi*; they are found throughout the district.

SHEEP AND WOOL—Nagaur district ranks sixth among districts of Rajasthan with regard to its sheep population (5.90 lakhs in 1966). The wool clip values roughly Rs. 50 lakhs a year, in addition to the indirect earnings from the sale of manures, bones and hides etc. Sheep farming is mostly undertaken by the members of Jat community although some

persons of other communities have also adopted this profession. There are three important breeds of sheep in the district, viz., *Chokla*, found in Ladnun and Didwana Panchayat Samitis, bordering Sikar and Churu districts, *Magra* found in northern part of the Nagaur Panchayat Samiti, bordering Bikaner district and *Marwari* found almost every where in the rest of the areas of the district. Many sheep breeders are nomadic and move from place to place in search of fodder for the animals.

A District Sheep and Wool Office was established at Nagaur in January 1964 to administer and co-ordinate the schemes regarding sheep and wool in the district. There were then eight sheep and wool extension centres located at Nagaur, Mundwa, Merta Road, Merta City, Degana, Kuchaman City, Ladnun and Parvatsar. Five more centres, one each at Khinwsar, Jayal, Didwana, Makrana and Riyan were opened in 1965. Thus, there were 13 sheep and wool extension centres in the district as on 31st December, 1970. Five Sheep Shearing Sheds, one each at Degana, Merta Road, Nagaur, Mundwa and Parvatsar, have been established, the last of which is provided with electrically operated shearing equipment. The State Government has also introduced a scheme of selective breeding and provides superior rams for mating purposes to check haphazard sheep breeding. About forty thousand sheep are brought under the selective breeding scheme in the district each season. Experiments are carried out at Bakauliya sheep breeding farm in Ladnun tahsil to produce cross-breed progeny by mating local sheep with foreign merino. The number of he-lambs and scrub rams castrated, and sheep given preventive treatment in the district during the three years 1967-68 to 1969-70 was as follows¹ :

Years	Dosing	Dipping	Vaccinations	Castrations
1967-68	26,270	7,164	1,678	10,247
1968-69	1,10,072	15,291	6,748	4,567
1969-70	44,756	—	20,674	3,327

In order to cut short the number of intermediaries and ensure fair returns to the breeders as well as to supply graded wool to the traders and mill owners, the scheme of purchase of wool from sheep farmers has been introduced in the district. The scheme involves advance booking for shearing by payment of Re. 1 per sheep. At the time of shearing, the price of wool is assessed and the final payment is made after adjusting the advance. If a flock master does not agree to sell the wool at the

1. Source : Office of the District Sheep and Wool Officer, Nagaur.

assessed rate to the department he is at liberty to sell it elsewhere and refund the money advanced to him. Quantities of wool purchased by the department during last few years were as follows¹ :

Year	(Quintals) Wool purchased
1964-65	829
1965-66	1,350
1966-67	195
1967-68	130
1968-69	1,110
1969-70	1,693

Practical demonstrations are held and films exhibited on the occasions of fairs etc. regarding scientific and improved methods of sheep farming.

Poultry Farming

Poultry farming is not popular in the district particularly in rural areas due to religious sentiments and danger of quick infestation etc. Poultry population in the district was just 10,228 in 1966.

Fisheries

Fisheries play an insignificant role in the economic life of the district as there are no water reservoirs available for fisheries development.

Livestock diseases

The most prevalent cattle diseases are foot and mouth disease, haemorrhagic septicaemia, anthrax, black quarter and rinderpest. A description of these diseases is given below :

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE—Locally known as *muaro*, it generally occurs during the winter season. In the initial stage which lasts for three days, a whitish mucus is discharged from mouth and in the final stage the hoof begins to rot. This disease, though not very fatal, is very contagious. It also causes great economic loss by reducing the milk yield of cows and buffaloes and disables the working cattle during their sickness. Animals suffering from this disease recover quickly with no permanent disablement if proper and timely treatment is given. Regular

1. Source : Office of the District Sheep and Wood Officer, Nagaur.

treatment of the affected cattle is provided in all veterinary institutions. People also resort to various local remedies most of which are inexpensive, but segregation is seldom attempted as it is thought to be impracticable.

Haemorrhagic septicaemia is a seasonal disease which generally spreads before the advent of rainy season and is locally known as *galgotu*. This is one of the most dangerous contagious diseases claiming maximum mortality amongst cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats. The visible symptoms of this disease are high fever with depression, loss of appetite and cessation of rumination. Pulse and respiration become accelerated followed by frothy flow of saliva from mouth and swelling of the throat. The mouth becomes hot and dry. The disease usually runs so rapid a course that the treatment is of little use. To save its onslaught, animals are immunised with H. S. vaccine before the onset of the monsoons and repeated twice a year.

Anthrax locally known as *kalia Bhav* or *satt* is an acute infectious disease and has a very rapid course (10 to 36 hours). It affects cattle and buffaloes but more often sheep and goats, and is caused by spore-forming micro-organism known as *Bacillus Anthracis*. It affects the blood so as to cause its destruction and loss of function. The symptoms appear in the form of a sudden rise in temperature with restlessness, bellowing, stamping of foot, and congestion of mucus membrane. Tremors of thighs or of the whole body may develop, and the animal becomes suddenly almost immobile. In more acute cases, there may be no outward symptoms and the animal may drop down and die. In sheep and goats, the grip of the disease is rather sudden. The animal staggers, grinds teeth with body twitching and dies in a few minutes. To keep the disease away, the animals have to be immunised before the commencement of the season with anthrax spore vaccine in one c. c. dose for cattle and half c. c. for sheep and goats.

The black quarter, locally called *Zahrav*, generally spreads in rainy season and affects the young stocks particularly. The symptoms of the disease are swelling of the hip and constipation; the colour of the blood becomes black and the animal feels difficulty in moving. It is a rare but fatal disease and mortality on this account ranges from 80 to 90 per cent. Ordinary treatment by medicines is of no avail. The swelling may be incised at several parts; the contents are expressed out and the tissue treated with antiseptic lotions as carbolic acid 30 per cent solution, formalin, hydrogen peroxide etc.

Rinderpest, locally known as *sheel* or *mata* is an acute febrile and highly contagious disease affecting chiefly cattle and buffaloes. It is characterised by inflammation, haemorrhages, erosions and necrosis of the mucus membrane of the eyes, nose and digestive tract, followed by excessive weakness and death in eight to ten days. This disease has been responsible for greater loss of cattle and buffaloes than any other disease.

Goats generally suffer from caprine pleuro, a contagious disease which spreads in rainy season. The patient becomes lazy, water comes out of its mouth and eyes and it feels difficulty in breathing due to swelling in lungs. The remedy is inoculation. *Gathiya*, a disease of the throat which can be cured by lancing the affected part where the poisonous fluid has collected. In case of *Burkiya*, the victim turns round and round, falls and expires. Pephuria and affection in lungs and *Mata* (rinderpest), are the other diseases affecting goats.

TREATMENT OF CATTLE DISEASES—Various preventive and curative measures have been taken by the Animal Husbandry Department to combat these diseases. There were ten veterinary hospitals located at Nagaur, Merta, Nawa, Makrana, Parvatsar, Didwana, Ladnun, Jayal, Kuchaman and Kuchera, five veterinary dispensaries located one each at Khinwasar, Mundwa, Harsor, Riyan and Maroth. Besides, there are Panchayat Samiti dispensaries at Degana, Deh (P. S. Jayal) and Ren (P. S. Merta). Two mobile units, one mass immunisation centre at Nagaur, one artificial insemination centre at Nagaur with eleven sub-centres and ten key village units were also functioning in the district as on 31st March, 1970. Preventive vaccination against Rinderpest has been entrusted to the mobile veterinary units, with headquarters at Nagaur and Didwana. The work is done on the lines prescribed by the Government of India, and approximately 1.25 lakh vaccinations are performed every year by each unit. As a result of continuous vaccination against Rinderpest over the last ten years or so, this disease does not cause so much economic loss to the breeders as it used to in the past. The work done at various veterinary institutions during years 1958-59 to 1969-70 was as follows:¹

Year	(Number)			
	Cases treated	Cases supplied with medicine	Castrations performed	Inoculations performed
1958-59	22,437	15,127	1,266	9,903
1959-60	25,142	10,119	1,059	2,351

1. Source: Office of the District Animal Husbandry Officer, Nagaur.

1	2	3	4	5
1960-61	42,715	11,046	4,623	6,000
1961-62	78,485	8,901	7,948	15,000
1962-63	57,137	12,502	1,713	1,099
1963-64	71,645	15,534	2,848	6,121
1964-65	68,754	32,987	4,463	46,532
1965-66	71,815	3,516	4,851	43,405
1966-67	46,488	9,575	3,017	11,431
1967-68	52,912	16,938	4,056	69,560
1968-69	62,293	28,285	6,561	1,97,997
1969-70	59,195	21,691	5,078	1,43,960

Cattle Fairs and Exhibitions

Three State-level cattle fairs are organised by the State Animal Husbandry Department and they are held at Nagaur, Merta and Parvatsar. Besides these, Didwana, Degana, Kuchaman, Parvatsar (at Bhakari), Nagaur (at Bapor) and Mundwa Panchayat Samitis also organise cattle fairs. Livestock such as cattle, bullocks, camels, horses and sheep and various other types of merchandise are marketed. At bigger fairs, people from other parts of Rajasthan and also Punjab, Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh gather in large numbers. Details of cattle assembled, cattle sold and income from the three State-level cattle fairs held in Nagaur district during the years 1964 to 1969 were as follows:

S. No.	Cattle Fairs/ Particulars	Unit	Years					
			1964	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
1.	Parvatsar Cattle fair:							
	(i) Cattle assembled	No. '000	118	84	108	103	95	133
	(ii) Cattle sold	No. '000	42	61	73	69	55	42
	(iii) Income	Rs. in '000	227	306	373	310	282	237
2.	Merta Cattle fair:							
	(i) Cattle assembled	No. '000	40	42	44	34	57	41
	(ii) Cattle sold	No. '000	14	26	11	11	11	9
	(iii) Income	Rs. in '000	51	91	68	63	56	57
3.	Nagaur Cattle fair:							
	(i) Cattle assembled	No. '000	54	80	63	59	66	67
	(ii) Cattle sold	No. '000	24	29	28	19	31	18
	(iii) Income	Rs. in '000	149	183	174	124	166	132

1. Source: Office of the District Animal Husbandry Officer, Nagaur.

FLOODS AND FAMINES

Floods

There is no perennial river flowing through the district. Luni river flows past through some areas of Merta and Nawa tahsils. It is a seasonal river which sometimes overflows its banks causing minor damage to the neighbouring low lying areas. These floods prove a blessing in disguise because often a very good crop is harvested on the flooded land, when the water has receded. The year 1968-69, however, was an exception. Nagaur district received unprecedented and unexpected rains from July 11 to July 13, 1968. As the people were not prepared for such an eventuality, there were heavy damages to private property and loss of human and animal lives. For a few days all communications with Parvatsar, Makrana, Kuchaman City, Didwana and Degana were completely cut off. Streams and tanks had overflowed; damage caused due to heavy rains during 1968-69 was as follows:¹

S.No.	Particulars	Number
1.	Village affected	700
2.	Families affected	34,219
3.	Persons affected	1,45,725
4.	Houses washed away	3,108
5.	Houses collapsed	7,198
6.	Houses partially damaged	23,267
7.	Human casualties	12
8.	Cattle died	65,059
9.	Damage to tanks	90
10.	Damage to schools	77
11.	Damage to hospitals and dispensaries	3
12.	Damage to Patwar Khanas	33
13.	Damage to Panchayat ghars	13
14.	Damage to temples	29
15.	Damage to wells	264
16.	Damage to pumping sets	84
17.	Damage to irrigation tank	1

Details of relief measures taken were as follows²:

1. Source: Collectorate, Nagaur.
2. Source: Collectorate, Nagaur.

S.No.	Particulars	Unit	Numbers
1.	Persons provided with free ration	No.	38,997
2.	Subsidy given for collapsed houses	No.	4,173
3.	Amount of subsidy given for collapsed houses	Rs.	3,89,740
4.	Subsidy given to partially damaged houses	No.	7,250
5.	Amount given for partially damaged houses	Rs.	2,34,055
6.	Value of free G. C. sheets distributed	Rs.	26,971
7.	Value of Free Food distributed	Rs.	3,226
8.	Taccavi loans granted for :		
	(i) Purchase of seed and bullocks	Rs.	1,00,000
	(ii) Repair of wells	Rs.	1,00,000
	(iii) Purchase of implements	Rs.	10,000
	(iv) Reconstruction of pucca houses	Rs.	1,00,000

Famines

The area falls within the region of constant drought and is liable to frequent famines. As Lt. Colonel Tod observed, famine "is the grand natural disease of the western regions of Rajasthan and local proverb which warns us to expect one lean year in three, and one famine year in eight has been proving very true¹." In early years the State of Jodhpur (Marwar) of which Nagaur formed a part was affected by famines in 1792, 1804, 1812-13, 1833-34, 1837-38, 1848-49, 1850 and 1853-54. Of these, the famine of 1812-13 was the most calamitous due to complete failure of crops and acute scarcity of water. No record of these famines is available.

The first recorded famine occurred in 1868-69 due to very little rainfall in 1868 and the entire area of Marwar State was affected. There was widespread scarcity of grain, forage and water and prices rose very high. The people along with their cattle migrated to Gujarat and Malwa and died in thousands as these territories were also distressed. It was estimated that due to cholera, that broke out in 1869, fever and starvation, the State lost 33 per cent of the human and 85 per cent of the cattle population, despite the relief measures taken by the Government and the philanthropists. The import duty on grain was abolished and food was distributed at many places. In 1871-72, *kharif* crops failed and during the following year they were damaged by locusts. "One flight of these

1. Erskine, K. D., *Rajputana Gazetteers*, Vol. III-A, p. 124.

animals was described as being four miles in length and one hundred feet in depth and as taking four hours to cross a road¹."

The other acute famines befell in 1877-78, 1891-92 and 1899-1900. In 1877-78, *kharif* crops yielded one-fourth and the *rabi* crop one-fifth of the usual production. Many persons who had migrated with their cattle were brought back at the expense of the durbar. But the bad season cost the State 20,000 persons, 80,000 heads of cattle, the total loss being about Rs. 10 lakhs. The triple famine of 1891-92 witnessed acute scarcity of grain, water and fodder. Nearly 2,00,000 persons emigrated with about 6,62,000 cattle and only sixty three per cent of the former and fifty eight per cent of the latter were said to have returned². Starting of relief works, poor houses and community kitchen to distribute food by the State, supplemented by private charity helped reduce the intensity of distress.

During the 1899-1900 famine, which is popularly known as *chhapaniakal*, crops completely failed and people migrated to Malwa which was equally affected by drought and had to come back after losing their cattle and selling their household possessions. Relief measures by the State were started in the autumn of 1899 on a scale never before attempted, and continued till September, 1900. The relief works were divided into two classes, the first consisting of large projects under the Public Works Department and the second of petty works under the civil agency. Gratuitous relief was provided by opening free kitchens, poor houses, orphanages and a chain of camps. Cash advances were given to the various Jagirdars and police to supply starving population with food etc. In addition to these measures, loans were granted to the farmers for the purchase of seed, cattle and bullocks, and agricultural implements distributed. Land revenue was remitted and the forest was declared open for unrestricted grazing by horned cattle.

The famine again gripped the State in 1904-05 and continued for two years. The emigrants pursuing the traditional march flocked to Malwa and other favoured states of Central India. It reduced the scope of relief work considerably. Grass depots at various points along the familiar routes of emigration were established to enable the cattle owners to obtain grass without difficulty³.

1. Erskine, K. D., *Rajputana Gazetteers*, Volume III-A, p. 126.

2. *ibid*.

3. *Reports on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, volumes for various years.

1907-08, 1916-17, 1926-27 and 1939-40 were also the years of scarcity. In 1907-08, relief operations were started to help the respectable people of limited means, who would not beg or accept charity openly. For this purpose the number of such needy persons was determined in consultation with the headmen of various communities and arrangements were made under the seal of secrecy for the distribution of doles through reliable officials in association with respectable members of each community. Gratuitous doles to the infirm and *pardanashin* ladies at their residence were arranged after careful village inspections. Fodder was transported by rail at concessional rates from places where it was available in abundance. In 1945, the grow more food campaign was started with a view to bringing more land under cultivation and to increase agricultural production¹.

In spite of the continuous efforts to minimise the frequency of famine the evil has not been mitigated because it is a natural calamity caused due to failure of rains. Details of famine years, tahsils and villages affected in Nagaur district and relief measures taken after formation of Rajasthan during various years have been given at Appendix VI.

In addition to the above relief measures detailed, Rs. 1,31,000 and Rs. 10,51,288 were spent on irrigation works during 1966-67 and 1969-70 respectively, and Rs. 1,24,698 and Rs. 6,13,585 on soil conservation work during 1967-68 and 1969-70 respectively.

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, volumes for relevant years.

APPENDIX I Land Utilisation in District Nagaur

('000 hectares)

Year	Total Geographical Area According to Surveyor General of India	Forests	Not available for cultivation		Other uncultivated land			Fallow land		Net area sown more than once	Total area cropped	
			Land put to non-agricul- tural uses	Barren and uncultura- ble land	Permanent pastures & other graz- ing land	Land un- der misc. tree crops & groves	Cultu- rable waste	Fallow other than current fallow	Current fallow			
1951-52	1,783	1	31	110	8	—	9	249	204	530	1	531
1952-53	1,783	1	129	90	20	—	70	257	247	1015	5	1020
1953-54	1,783	2	53	108	36	—	15	178	251	918	4	922
1954-55	1,783	2	63	117	42	—	10	196	350	981	8	989
1955-56	1,783	2	61	113	46	—	14	209	302	1006	9	1015
1956-57	1,783	3	69	99	52	—	16	197	290	1034	23	1057
1957-58	1,783	2	69	96	56	Neg.	15	196	313	1016	5	1021
1958-59	1,783	1	68	95	58	—	16	212	268	1044	8	1052
1959-60	1,783	1	68	94	58	—	15	193	275	1057	23	1080
1960-61	1,783	1	69	91	58	Neg.	12	190	299	1043	4	1047
1961-62	1,783	1	75	82	60	-do-	11	153	284	1097	5	1102
1962-63	1,783	Neg.	77	77	64	-do-	11	154	264	1116	4	1120
1963-64	1,783	Neg.	74	91	52	-do-	15	170	289	1070	4	1074
1964-65	1,783	Neg.	73	94	60	—	10	109	258	1163	8	1171
1965-66	1,783	1	72	84	72	—	8	120	261	1147	4	1151

Sources : Collectorate Nagaur for the years 1951-52 to 1956-57 and *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years, for figures from 1957-58 to 1965-66.

Neg.=Negligible.

APPENDIX II

Irrigation Tanks In Nagaur District¹

Location	Tahsil	Length (feet)	Height (feet)	Gross capacity (m. c. ft.)	Gross command area (acres)
1. Harsor	Degana	2,000	24	89.00	1,170
2. Hatsolao	Merta	4,500	20	17.80	375
3. Bherunda	Degana	2,200	28	73.00	1,357
4. Dodiya	Degana	3,300	20	23.00	350
5. Peepliya	Degana	1,100	15	8.00	200
6. Bhakri Molas	Parvatsar	5,300	20	295.00	4,762
7. Manglana	Parvatsar	8,000	15	28.23	364
8. Pirji-ka-Naka	Parvatsar	650	24	45.08	375

1. Source : Office of the Executive Engineer, Irrigation, Ajmer Division, Ajmer.

APPENDIX III

Area Under Cultivation and Production of Important Crops in Nagaur District ¹

(Area in hectares)
(Production in tonnes)

Year	Bajra		Jowar		Wheat		Barley	
	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1958-59	4,55,019	1,58,606	1,15,061	22,439	24,360	19,030	7,973	14,172
1959-60	4,19,612	1,06,763	1,11,848	19,056	23,925	8,045	11,078	17,971
1960-61	5,05,630	88,406	65,509	9,328	8,602	7,857	13,048	14,178
1961-62	5,04,420	1,52,645	1,12,349	23,296	14,744	16,046	10,148	14,178
1962-63	4,11,411	1,15,739	1,31,040	40,976	40,142	17,546	10,948	17,036
1963-64	4,49,243	78,044	84,424	283	6,751	5,167	9,153	15,428
1964-65	5,20,945	1,45,384	1,01,749	15,851	31,280	23,035	8,486	13,420
1965-66	5,16,201	1,00,674	67,192	2,937	10,673	11,505	8,460	17,394
1966-67	5,44,366	1,57,866	62,508	4,751	13,282	11,077	8,694	11,415
1967-68	5,53,881	1,61,179	80,784	12,601	20,844	20,552	9,172	12,401
1968-69	4,96,332	46,655	74,276	—	12,542	1,13,909	10,968	7,123
1969-70	5,58,286	1,01,050	75,176	1,804	11,755	10,650	10,165	7,430

¹ Source : Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, yearly volumes.

APPENDIX III (Concl.)

Year	Gram		Other kharif pulses		Sesamum		Rape and Mustard		Groundnut		Cotton	
	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production
I	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21
1958-59	23,932	9,736	2,28,540	40,984	63,301	16,176	3,537	950	470	397	963	558
1959-60	27,054	12,645	2,51,495	53,670	88,623	13,609	819	115	748	335	521	340
1960-61	8,512	1,707	1,06,313	23,611	57,504	1,289	17	6	776	211	380	284
1961-62	8,631	4,107	2,27,283	40,758	70,177	9,203	679	283	809	217	705	494
1962-63	18,889	3,547	2,49,647	65,990	84,156	12,923	2,113	869	1,747	632	565	464
1963-64	4,439	690	2,37,912	62,246	71,635	1,043	228	32	2,078	1,931	594	479
1964-65	8,739	1,535	2,50,974	23,520	84,326	7,939	3,026	1,146	1,985	1,759	579	394
1965-66	4,169	1,521	2,47,801	62,353	91,695	5,961	73	24	3,019	961	566	316
1966-67	2,527	1,172	2,62,807	53,763	87,877	3,779	751	159	2,744	1,462	765	583
1967-68	7,908	6,273	2,80,954	67,116	82,825	7,206	3,048	1,004	4,908	2,800	446	407
1968-69	8,188	4,221	2,71,538	28,384	71,159	1,992	232	105	8,083	788	384	251
1969-70	174	65	2,58,466	47,594	66,273	1,458	93	103	3,040	377	462	242

Production of Cotton in bales of 392 lbs/178 kg. each.

APPENDIX IV

Grass Depots in Nagaur District during 1969-70¹

S. No.	Village	Tahsil
1.	Gogelao	Nagaur
2.	Pachori	"
3.	Bhundel	"
4.	Guda Bhagwandas	"
5.	Nagaur	"
6.	Karnu	"
7.	Khakwana	"
8.	Mundwa	"
9.	Kuchera	"
10.	Kanwalad	Parvatsar
11.	Parvatsar	"
12.	Merta	Merta
13.	Chawandiya	"
14.	Lamba Jata	"
15.	Merta Road (Phalodi)	"
16.	Gagura	"
17.	Gotan	"
18.	Riyan Bari	"
19.	Ren	"
20.	Bari Ghati	Degana
21.	Harsor	"
22.	Alaniyawas	"
23.	Degana	"

1. Source: Collectorate, Nagaur.

APPENDIX V

Livestock population in Nagaur District

Particulars	(Number)		
	Years		
	1956	1961	1966
I. Cattle	5,92,829	5,70,365	6,09,974
1. Males over 3 years	1,39,345	1,40,710	1,44,387
(a) Breeding	1,130	1,009	1,321
(b) Working	1,36,830	1,38,965	1,42,218
(c) Others	1,385	736	848
2. Females over 3 years	2,48,382	2,57,568	2,60,247
(a) In Milk	98,630	78,202	1,17,678
(b) Dry	1,20,005	1,36,817	1,25,151
(c) Others	29,747	42,549	17,418
3. Young Stock (3 years and under)	2,05,102	1,72,087	2,05,340
(a) Males	99,337	83,200	92,464
(b) Females	1,05,765	88,887	1,12,876
II. Buffaloes	1,07,366	1,10,765	1,26,319
1. Males over 3 years	7,248	10,837	14,007
(a) Breeding	222	142	95
(b) Working	6,764	10,167	12,920
(c) Others	262	528	992
2. Females over 3 years	51,188	55,110	57,512
(a) In Milk	27,313	24,591	32,106
(b) Dry	17,292	20,774	10,122
(c) Others	6,583	9,745	5,284
3. Young Stock (3 years and under)	48,930	44,818	54,800
(a) Males	18,667	16,371	19,945
(b) Females	30,263	28,147	34,855

1	2	3	4
III. Goats	3,31,371	2,75,666	4,44,697
IV. Sheep	6,71,652	3,97,614	5,90,013
V. Horses and Ponnies	1,547	1,185	1,076
VI. Mules	8	35	7
VII. Donkeys	5,427	4,952	3,998
VIII. Camels	22,649	27,015	36,366
IX. Pigs	1,046	731	968
Total livestock	17,34,795	13,88,328	18,13,418
Poultry	7,498	6,609	10,228
Fowls	7,469	6,563	10,208
Ducks	24	32	18
Others	5	14	2

- Sources : 1. *The Rajasthan Quinquennial Livestock Census Report*, 1956, pp. 14-20.
 2. *Report on the Livestock Census of Rajasthan, 1961*, pp. 262-273.
 3. *ibid.*, 1966, pp. 420-436.

APPENDIX VI
Famines in Nagaur District

Year	Tahsils affected (No.)	Villages affected (No.)	Expenditure (Rs.)						Relief to people other than on relief works
			Relief works		Other Measures				
			Tank & wells	Road works	Gratuitous Relief	Cattle conservation	Water Supply	Taccavi loans	
Samvat 2011 (1954-55)	6	413	1,94,618	2,09,400	30,000	19,145	25,000	29,300	10,000
Samvat 2012 (1955-56)	4	90	55,000	—	—	—	1,86,600	—	—
Samvat 2013 (1956-57)	7	594	1,45,929	1,10,010	2,015	—	—	71,378	200
Samvat 2014 (1957-58)	7	161	1,15,597	—	1,369	—	493	23,622	—
Samvat 2017 (1960-61)	6	310	5,68,061	6,824	8,066	11,540	6,432	2,25,945	—
Samvat 2018 (1961-62)	1	13	43,652	—	1,500	—	200	—	—
Samvat 2019-20 (1962-64)	7	542	6,08,782	46,42,952	12,380	90,955	25,737	5,56,000	—
Samvat 2022 (1965-66)	8	483	45,624	40,95,145	11,592	39,710	29,335	2,59,000	—
Samvat 2023 (1966-67)	7	189	—	16,21,294	9,630	—	320	—	—
Samvat 2025 (1968-69)	8	711	11,66,713	1,32,70,762	77,545	2,63,610	21,363	3,25,000	—

Source: Collectorate, Nagaur.

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

The district of Nagaur occupies a relatively low place on the industrial map of the State. It is dependent to a large extent on imports even for articles of common usage that are manufactured in other districts. The backwardness of its agriculture, the paucity of industrial enterprise, the lack of proper communication and transport facilities and the inadequacy of power supply, individual initiative and technical skill have combined to make the district industrially and economically backward in spite of its rich mineral wealth.

OLD TIME INDUSTRIES

In early years, traditional industries like handloom weaving, ivory carving, making of marble vessels, smithy, carpentry etc. catered to small local needs. They are still being pursued in an attenuated form. Since there was little use of mechanical devices in the manufacturing process manual labour was employed to produce goods for meeting the needs of the people. The products of these industries were unable to compete with machine made articles and, therefore, gradually paled into insignificance. Among the products of these industries¹ mention may be made of brass utensils, marble vessels, gold and silver ornaments, felt rugs, camel saddles, embroidered scarves called *Dawnies*, turbans, embroidered silk knotted thread for putting the head dress, dyed and printed cloth, country leather, portmanteaus known as *Jamdanis*. Nagaur, Merta and Didwana were particularly known for the manufacturing of these articles². Brassware and hardware were the most important traditional crafts of the district. The local *Lohars* and *Chadwas*, who belonged to the Muslim community, were especially known for their skill in dyeing and printing of *Orhnis* and *Chunris* and in making smithy tools. Ivory articles, clay and wooden toys, blankets, *kheslas*, saddles, and bridles were manufactured at

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, 1893-94, p. 6.

2. *ibid.*, volumes for various years.

Merta. Wooden pots used by Jain *Sadhus* were manufactured at Kuchaman. Grinding stones (*Chakis*) were also manufactured at Maroth. As observed by K. D. Erskine, dyeing and printing of cotton fabrics constituted a highly specialised industry and the dyers and printers thrived in consequence of their ability to gratify the love of colour or rather the well patterned combination of colours so popular among either sex in Rajputana. Other more or less important but struggling industries in the area were the brass and iron-foundries, goldsmithy, silversmithy and embroidery, the lacquer work in Nagaur and ivory turning at Merta. Turbans for men and scarves for women were dyed and prepared with much labour by *Chadwas* and *Khatris* and an embroidered silk knotted thread for wearing on the turban called *phulmala* was also peculiar to Marwar and was made by Oswal Mahajans, those engaged in the work being styled *Patwas* (from *pat*, meaning silk). The guitar strings of Nagaur, the felt cloaks and rugs and the *khaskhas* fans of Merta, the marble toys, cups and platters of Makrana were the other noteworthy crafts of the area now included in Nagaur district.

The district is, however, still backward industrially. No large scale industry has yet been set up though the Sodium Sulphate plant has the potentiality of growth. Some efforts have been made by both Governmental and semi-governmental agencies, to resuscitate them by injecting new blood in the form of financial and other type of help. The following pages will describe their condition in detail and the efforts made to keep them going and to develop them. Manufacture of lime, nylon buttons, plastic goods, hosiery goods, wooden furniture, iron and steel furniture, tin cans, agricultural implements, medicines, machine parts, electrical goods etc. are some of the new small scale industries which have developed in last fifty years. Details of small scale industries regarding the number of units, investment, employment and estimated annual production are given in Appendix I.

POWER

Hydro-Electric Power

Before the integration of the area into Rajasthan, there was little power available in this area. At present, Nagaur district is connected with Bhakra and Chambal hydel grids through five feeding lines commissioned between 1964-65 and 1969-70¹.

1. Source : Office of the Executive Engineer (Commercial), Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

One hundred and ten localities in the district had been electrified upto 31st March, 1970. Names of these localities, tahsils in which located, and dates of their electrification have been given in Appendix II.

MINING

The district of Nagaur is rich in mineral deposits both quantitatively and qualitatively. It is one of the foremost districts of western Rajasthan so far as mineral deposits are concerned and its mines fetch a revenue of more than Rs. 15 lakhs annually¹. The marble deposits of Makrana enjoy an enviable reputation. Other main minerals found in the district are wolframite, gypsum, limestone and sodium salt. A brief description of these is given in the following paragraphs.

Marble

The marble quarried at Makrana is fine grained. For centuries it has occupied the pride of place as a decorative construction material of buildings and various temples, mosques and mausoleums in the country. It occurs in bands of various shades and texture extending over 10 km. or so. The most important is the medium to fine grained immaculate marble which fetches higher prices because of suitability for carving and statue making and consequently its heavy demand for such purposes. The other attractive shades of marble are pink, bluish white and variegated. The quarries are worked by private parties manually and have gone down great depths. Locally made hand driven cranes are employed to lift marble blocks from the quarries, which numbered 430 in 1970. They are dressed and then sawed into thin sheets of various widths and sizes. Marble is also used for making toys, decoration pieces, paper weights, chips for flooring etc. Production of marble and revenue earned during the last four years ending 1969-70 was as follows² :

Year	Production (tonnes)	Revenue (Rs. in lakhs)
1966-67	37,284	3.98
1967-68	42,250	3.76
1968-69	37,860	4.15
1969-70	39,466	3.69

Wolframite

This mineral occurs in Rewat hills near Degana. The

1. Source : Office of the Director of Mines and Geology, Rajasthan, Udaipur.

2. *Ibid.*

deposit was accidentally discovered by a retired railway employee and mining of the mineral was started as far back as in 1916 which was stopped intermittently due to low market prices but revived in 1965. This mineral is used for the manufacture of tungsten metal which possesses unique properties of having highest melting point and lowest vapour pressure and also the highest tensile strength in the form of wire. The mineral is also used for making lamp filaments and high speed steel. About 600 labourers are employed in its mining. The production and revenue from the mining of wolframite during the last four years ending with 1969-70 was as follows¹ :

Year	Production (tonnes)	Revenue (Rs. in lakhs)
1966-67	19,446	2.64
1967-68	26,005	8.01
1968-69	29,781	2.52
1969-70	31,183	5.84

Gypsum

Gypsum is found in abundance in Nagaur district. It mostly occurs as gypsite associated with desert sand. It is used in the manufacture of Sulphuric acid, plaster of Paris, dental and acoustic plaster and hard finished plaster as also in the construction of buildings to provide insulation from heat. It is also used in the manufacture of nitrogenous fertilisers such as ammonium sulphate. Recently the Geological Survey of India carried out operations for the large buried deposits in Nagaur area at depths ranging from 35.50 metres to 115.52 metres². It was estimated that it had reserves of the order of about 952 million tonnes of gypsum containing 81 per cent and above of $\text{CaSO}_4 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$. During the years 1966-67, 1967-68, 1968-69 and 1969-70, the production of gypsum was 2.45 lakh tonnes, 1.71 lakh tonnes, 1.90 lakh tonnes and 1.68 lakh tonnes and revenue of the order of Rs. 4.41 lakhs, Rs. 3.42 lakhs, Rs. 4.42 lakhs and Rs. 5.64 lakhs respectively.

Limestone

The Sojat-Bilara limestone belt extends nearly upto Rol-Quazian in Nagaur District, which contains, at places, high grade limestone and is worked entirely by private entrepreneurs at Kathali, Ambali, Gotan and

1. Source : Office of the Director, Mines and Geology, Rajasthan, Udaipur.

2. *ibid.*

Mundwa. The mining operations are carried out manually with the aid of Jack Hammer drill for putting shot-holes. During 1966-67, 1967-68, 1968-69 and 1969-70 the production was 1.55 lakh tonnes, 1.43 lakh tonnes, 1.61 lakh tonnes and 1.90 lakh tonnes and revenue accrual amounted to Rs. 4.24 lakhs, Rs. 2.82 lakhs, Rs. 3.96 lakhs and Rs. 3.68 lakhs respectively.

Besides the above mentioned minerals, other minerals like sandstone, granite, and ochre are also found in the district.

INDUSTRIES AND MANUFACTURES

Large Scale Industries

This district has the proud distinction of claiming a good number of industrial magnets of the country as its citizens. But no industry falling under the category of large scale has been established in this area.

Medium Scale Industries

RAJASTHAN STATE CHEMICAL WORKS, DIDWANA—This is the most important manufacturing unit of the district, run as a public undertaking of the State Government. The factory was set up as a result of a proposal for separating Sodium Sulphate to obtain pure common salt produced at Didwana. Messrs. Standard Merso, Duisburg, Germany, offered a pilot scale plant for producing 16 tons of sodium per day from lake brines. The scheme was approved in the year 1959, and the machinery was shipped in the year 1961. The plant was commissioned in the year 1964. The factory is designed to produce 60 tons of Sodium Sulphate and $1\frac{1}{2}$ tons of Sodium Sulphide per day. The products of the factory are mostly used by the paper and glass industries and leather tanneries situated in West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. The year-wise production figures of Sodium Sulphate and Sodium Sulphide are given below¹ :

Year	(Tonnes)	
	Sodium Sulphate	Sodium Sulphide
1964-65	182.35	—
1965-66	2,033.50	—
1966-67	2,113.05	112.15
1967-68	1,901.00	303.18
1968-69	1,990.00	269.36
1969-70	2,034.70	345.16

1. Source : Office of the General Superintendent, Rajasthan State Chemical Works, Didwana.

The technical, supervisory and ministerial staff employed in the concern as on 31st March, 1970 included one General Superintendent, one Deputy Superintendent, four Shift Engineers, one Assistant Chemist, four Foremen, 19 Engineering Subordinates, 42 Technicians, 46 Helpers, one Accountant, four Upper Division Clerks, one Stenographer, seven Lower Division Clerks and 14 peons.

RAJASTHAN WORSTED SPINNING MILLS, LADNUN—It is a public limited company run as a unit of the Rajasthan Small Industries Corporation, a Rajasthan Government concern, and is located on Jaswantgarh road, Ladnun. It was established on 21st January, 1968 with a capital outlay of Rs. 11.88 lakhs. This unit produces worsted yarn for knitting and hosiery and has a capacity of 400 spindles which can be increased upto 1200 spindles. The proposed investment for this worsted spinning mills is Rs. 15 lakhs. The mill is designed to process local wool for manufacturing 30 thousand pounds of wool tops costing about Rs. 1.75 lakhs and produce 20 counts worsted yarn weighing 26 thousand lbs.

Wages of skilled workers range between Rs. 3 and Rs. 4 per day and those of the semi-skilled between Rs. 2.30 and Rs. 2.70 per day. The apprentices and the unskilled workers are paid Rs. 2.25 per day. Details of the consumption of raw materials and the ensuing production are given below:

Year	Raw material consumed		Production (kg.)	Sales (Rs.)
	Quantity (kg.)	Amount (Rs.)		
1967-68	1,943	30,555	852	Nil
1968-69	21,473	2,97,668	17,316	1,51,744
1969-70	16,392	2,53,672	14,053	4,67,880

The worsted yarn produced is marketed at Ludhiana and Amritsar.

Small Scale Industries

The Central Small Industries Organisation of the Government of India decided in 1959 to launch an integrated development programme in Nagaur district. Under this programme the Small Industries Service Institute, the National Small Industries Corporation and the State Directorate of Industries were to make concerted efforts to accelerate the small

1. Source: Office of the Manager, The Rajasthan Worsted Spinning Mills, Ladnun.

industries development. The method adopted for this purpose is known as Intensive Development Campaign. The Rural Industrialisation Project, Nagaur under this campaign, was started on 1st April, 1964, with a view to attract new entrepreneurs in industrially backward rural areas of the district and to accelerate the slow progress of existing small scale industries. Two of the important small scale industrial concerns of the district are described below:

SABOO ENGINEERING WORKS, KUCHAMAN ROAD—This was established in 1956 as a partnership concern. Two more units viz., Saboo Iron Foundry and Saboo Industries were started in the year 1965. Saboo Engineering Works is engaged in the manufacture of stone crushers (disintegrator type), air separation plants, sorting machines, lifting elevators, feeding elevators, electric magnetic separators, agate mills, agate grinders, salt grinding roller mills, marble mosaic chips plants and quartz crushing plants. The total number of workers employed was 40 during 1969-70. Skilled and unskilled labourers were paid Rs. 135 and Rs. 95 per month respectively. Raw materials such as iron plates, aluminium ingots, copper wire, ball bearings, rubber beltings, stainless steel wire nettings, rectifiers, hardware and paint etc. are purchased from the open market. The sales of Saboo Engineering Works and Saboo Iron Foundry are given below¹ :

(Rupees)

Year	Saboo Engineering Works	Saboo Iron Foundry
1965-66	70,172	8,013
1966-67	1,23,378	98,975
1967-68	1,87,384	1,42,579
1968-69	2,51,720	1,99,389
1969-70	3,12,438	2,19,697

The Saboo Industries, Kuchaman Road manufacture hand *chakkis* and village industries implements for flour mills, rice mills, *dal* mills, paddy huskers, rice polishers etc.

It is a recognised manufacturing centre of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Bombay. The sales of this unit were as follows² :

1. Office of the Project Officer (Industries), Nagaur,
2. *ibid*.

Year	Sales (Rs.)
1965-66	1,85,045
1966-67	3,12,151
1967-68	2,14,771
1968-69	3,45,600
1969-70	3,33,042

EMERY STONE MANUFACTURING CO., KUCHAMAN ROAD—This unit was established in October, 1950 for manufacture of emery stones, Dal shellers and flour mills etc. The sales of this unit for the last five years were as follows¹ :

Year	Sales (Rs.)
1965-66	4,49,564
1966-67	7,53,559
1967-68	10,63,402
1968-69	13,36,151
1969-70	15,29,097

Details of small scale industries working in the district are given in Appendix I. List of registered factories and workers employed therein have been given in Appendix III.

Cottage Industries

In addition to the small scale industries, a few cottage industries also exist in the district. Some of them are quite old while others have developed recently. Category-wise description of these industries is given below :

HAND TOOLS INDUSTRY—The history of the hand tools industry can be traced back to mediaeval period when a few *lohars* from Multan (now in Pakistan) migrated to Nagaur who were employed to manufacture and repair guns and cannons.² Gradually, these *lohars* switched over to making articles of household utility such as locks, needles, *hamamdastas* etc. In the beginning of the twentieth century, due to favourable market conditions and on the advice of local dealers, the *lohars* started the

1. Source : Office of the Project Officer (Industries), Nagaur.

2. *ibid*.

manufacture of gold smithy tools. When the Second World War broke out and the import of all types of hand tools practically came to a standstill, the *lohars* also took to the manufacture of engineering hand tools.

This industry is concentrated in Nagaur town. The various types of tools manufactured are engineering tools like pliers, axes, adzes, anvils, and drills, nail pullers, tin cutters etc., gold smithy tools, like hammers, files, cutting scissors of various types, tongs, wire drawing dies and watch maker's tools like pliers, hammers, tweezers etc. The Multani *lohars* were first lodged inside the Nagaur fort, but in course of time they were granted a piece of land outside, and it has since developed into a prominent locality of Nagaur town, known as Loharpura. There were about 125 families of *lohars* in 1947 which increased to about 300 in 1970. These are all said to be descendents of the families of *lohars* who established themselves in Nagaur in the mediaeval period¹. These families which can technically be termed as small scale units, are sole proprietorship concerns and each of them usually engages outside labourers to work as hammermen. The workshops in most cases function outside their residences. The technique followed by the units is rather simple and crude, involving huge manual operations. The hand tools are manufactured by hand forging. The units invariably sell rough forged products to the local dealers, who get them ground and buffed at the servicing units. The products are thus not sold directly to the consumers or to the outside dealers. The requirements of raw materials are generally met by purchases from local dealers.

With a view to popularising scientific techniques of production, an industrial workshop was set up at the end of the year 1957 to impart training in improved methods to local producers and to bring the local products under the scheme of quality control. The Rural Industries Project, which is operating in this district, has taken various steps to improve the quality of tools and machines, quality and quantity of products and facilitated marketing. Many of the workers have formed co-operative societies of their own. Long-term loans and technical assistance at the door is being provided to the producers regularly. Upto 1969-70, fixed capital of Rs. 5.5 lakhs and working capital of about Rs. 75 thousand had been invested in the industry giving employment to about 18 hundred persons. The total production and sales of the industry valued approximately Rs. 20.7 lakhs and Rs. 22.5 lakhs respectively.

MARBLE INDUSTRY—This industry is concentrated at Makrana, in the vicinity of marble quarries. The marble quarried is famous for its

1. Source : Office of the Project Officer (Industries), Nagaur.

purity, attractive shades and hardness and is reported to have been used in the construction of world famous buildings like Sarnath temple, Taj Mahal and Victoria Memorial. According to K.D. Erskine, the twenty six quarries being worked in his days (1907) gave employment to about 110 labourers.¹ Martin Burn & Co. were the first to use machinery in the year 1911 for sawing and polishing of marble.² Their installations were taken over jointly by three companies viz., R. G. Bansal & Co., H.S. Nathu & Co., and H.S. Hussain & Co., who continued the work then. Various steps were taken to help development of the industry, by the then rulers. The quarrymen were given loans at favourable rates of interest to enable them to buy suitable machinery and a list of second hand machines available in the market was supplied to them. Handicrafts, marble toys, cup-plates, paper weights, decoration pieces, statues, ayurvedic equipment, glasses and marble slabs of various sizes used in construction of buildings are the important products of this industry. There are about 310 units including 200 fancy and decorative articles making units equipped with modern machinery having a total investment of Rs. 60 lakhs and Rs. 20 lakhs of working capital. Annual production and sales approximate Rs. 41 lakhs and Rs. 45 lakhs respectively.³ The industry engages about 3,000 persons.

IVORY AND IMITATION IVORY INDUSTRY—Concentrated mainly at Merta City, Kuchera and Nagaur, there are about 50 units in whole of the district engaged in the manufacture of handicrafts. They have been manufacturing ivory statues, buttons, other fancy items and articles of domestic use. On an average about 200 workers are employed in these units and daily production and sales are worth Rs. 1.05 thousand and 1.21 thousand respectively⁴.

SALT INDUSTRY—Salt industry is one of the oldest and most important industries of the district. Common salt chiefly in the form of Sodium Chloride associated with Sodium Sulphate and Sodium Carbonate is found in abundance at Didwana, Nawa and Kuchaman, the most important source being Didwana lake. Members of *Deshwali* caste inhabiting the surrounding areas are particularly engaged in the production of salt. They have been working about two thousand quarries for centuries, employing about 1,500 persons. As mentioned in an earlier section, the State Government

1. Erskine, K.D., *Rajputana Gazetteers*, Volume III-A, p. 115.

2. Source : Office of the Project Officer (Industries), Nagaur.

3. *ibid.*

4. *ibid.*

has established a Sodium Sulphate plant at Didwana. Data regarding production of salt in Nagaur district are given below¹:

Year	('000 tonnes)		
	Didwana	Kuchaman	Sargoth & Mithri
1951	60.0	—	—
1952	45.8	—	—
1953	44.3	—	—
1954	17.7	—	—
1955	26.4	—	—
1956	10.8	—	—
1957	27.2	—	—
1958	31.0	—	—
1959	24.6	—	—
1960	15.0	2.4	—
1961	35.9	3.4	—
1962	25.8	11.2	—
1963	27.5	39.1	—
1964	48.7	33.7	—
1965	51.0	58.2	—
1966	52.0	53.3	—
1967	61.3	30.0	21.4
1968	54.5	32.7	27.7
1969	77.5	—	11.1

WEAVING, PRINTING AND TIE AND DIE INDUSTRY—*Safa* (turban), *Chundri* and *sarees* are famous products of Kuchaman, Ladnun and Nagaur. This industry has not yet adopted the modern methods and equipment for production. However, a change in design and pattern of the products is visible. During the year 1969–70, there were about 4,500 units employing 10,000 workers with an investment of Rs. 9 lakhs producing goods worth approximately Rs. 25 lakhs annually².

The Rural Industrialisation Project helps the units in procuring controlled and imported raw materials, financial assistance, allotment of land and construction of sheds etc.

Village Industries

Spinning, weaving, leather tanning and shoe making, dyeing and

1. Source : Office of the Salt Commissioner, Government of India, Jaipur.

2. Source : Office of the Project Officer (Industries), Nagaur.

printing, carpentry and pottery are some of the important village industries of the district which provide employment to a large section of the population. These industries have survived even in the absence of any impetus whatsoever, and in spite of adverse circumstances by virtue of their traditional family pursuits in rural areas. Recently the State and Central Governments have started giving them help through official and semi-official agencies such as Rural Industrialisation Project, and Khadi Gramodyog Board etc. Category-wise details of these cottage industries are given below :

SPINNING INDUSTRY—Spinning as a craft is mostly learnt by village belles when they are young. Girls spin cotton or wool available locally on the spinning wheel (*charkha*) which is a proud acquisition of many households. Spinning employs a large number of women specially in off season. 241 persons worked as spinners, piercers and winders at the time of 1961 Census.

WEAVING INDUSTRY—Weaving occupies a pre-eminent place on the industrial panorama. It is plied all over the district by weavers known as *Jalahas* who are found almost in every village. All members of the family are engaged in this industry and the raw materials used are mainly woollen yarn of goats, sheep and camel hair and cotton yarn. Weavers and drawers numbered 275 as per 1961 Census.

LEATHER TANNING AND SHOE MAKING—Most of the persons employed in this industry belong to the Scheduled Castes. Hides and skins are tanned locally by a simple process. The *kikar* bark and *beri* roots etc. are some of the important tanning materials that are available in the villages and are used for the purpose. Many *chamars* also manufacture *desi* shoes which are used by villagers. These shoes cannot match the elegance and finery of modern type of shoes but are quite durable and serve the villagers better. The number of leather workers was 3,589 at the time of 1961 Census.

DYEING AND PRINTING—The dyeing and printing of cotton fabrics is a highly specialised industry and is still thriving because of the ability of the dyers and printers to gratify the Marwari love of colour and display, heightened by well designed combinations of different patterns. Most of the dyeing and printing works are family concerns. The equipment consists of a few pots and pans for boiling and rinsing cloth and blocks and stencils for printing. Printed *sarees*, bed-sheets, bed-covers, pillow covers and ladies' shirt pieces are the main products of the industry. The

traditional vegetable dyes, however, have been elbowed out by the cheap aniline dyes but the artistic taste, seeking to attain delicacy and harmony of colours has yet to overpower the craving for mere gaudiness of design, howsoever discordant, whether on the part of the dyer or his clients. Dyed and block printed fabrics continue to command good market even out-side the State, chiefly in Gujarat. The 1961 Census recorded the number of bleachers, dyers and finishers in the district as 275.

CARPENTRY—Carpenters are not available in each and every hamlet but are found only in big villages and towns where they cater to the needs of the people of the locality and neighbouring areas. As superior variety of timber can be easily imported, its use in architecture and in the making furniture and cabinets has been steadily growing. Carpentry has accordingly become a lucrative trade and carpenters who are not experts in artistic furniture making, manufacture wooden agricultural implements and other necessities of daily life of the villagers. 843 persons were engaged in this line at the time of 1961 Census.

POTTERY INDUSTRY—This is a traditional industry and persons engaged in it belong to *kumhar* community. They manufacture earthen jugs and jars, decorative articles like flower vases and earthen pots of various sizes and shapes for storing water and other articles like cooked vegetables and milk and butter milk. This industry has received a great set-back because of growing use of utensils of glass and china clay in daily life. Due to general scarcity of water and clay it has not been possible for the potters to manufacture ornamental pottery. The main working instruments of the potter are a *chak*, a three feet long wooden stick and a piece of thread about one foot in length. The raw materials such as clay and fuel are locally available. Potters and related clay formers numbered 1,671 at the time of 1961 Census.

Rajasthan Khadi and Village Industries Board

The Rajasthan Khadi and Village Industries Board was constituted in 1954 with the object of providing financial assistance for organising and developing the manufacture of *Khadi* (both traditional and on Ambar Charkha) and village industries such as processing of cereals, leather, oil *Ghanis*, *gur*, *khandsari*, handmade paper, village pottery etc. in order to tackle the problems of unemployment and under-employment particularly in rural areas. The work done by the Rajasthan Khadi and Village Industries Board in the field of various village industries in Nagaur district is described as follows :

VILLAGE OILSEED PRESSING INDUSTRY—In olden times, seed pressing was an ubiquitous occupation in rural areas. This characteristic of the industry is declining now and oilseeds are crushed only in big villages and towns. Many oilmen (*Telis*) still use the old type of crushers (*Ghanis*) consisting of wooden or a stone mortar (inside lined with wood) and a wooden *lat* (a large pestle) worked by a bullock. The details of production and sales, assistance provided and employment in the industry during the last five years ending 1969-70 are given below¹:

Particulars	Unit	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
1. Production-Quantity	Kg.	7,15,741	14,62,654	6,08,856	6,44,054	7,02,830
2. Production-Value	Rs.	24,07,806	34,84,862	11,43,454	14,72,046	17,71,080
3. Sales-Quantity	Kg.	6,17,027	14,55,642	2,42,893	2,14,226	6,99,483
4. Sales-Value	Rs.	20,81,204	29,07,103	9,45,529	10,05,948	18,05,474
5. Employment	No.	356	369	279	1,364	200
6. Loans advanced	Rs.	82,100	75,450	40,275	62,800	62,725
7. Grants given	Rs.	11,358	12,250	11,809	2,741	5,100

VILLAGE LEATHER INDUSTRY—This is one of the most flourishing industries, as the district is rich in livestock which provide ample raw material. The Rajasthan Khadi and Village Industries Board is assisting the development of this industry. Details of production, sales, employment, assistance provided have been as follows²:

Particulars	Unit	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
1. Production	Rs.	72,816	1,36,177	1,57,910	1,38,012	2,31,744
2. Sales	Rs.	72,869	1,33,373	1,67,299	1,69,008	2,81,333
3. Employment	No.	163	99	192	205	219
4. Loans advanced	Rs.	34,874	34,213	2,450	33,500	16,350
5. Grants given	Rs.	15,000	13 250	200	15,180	6,730

Besides the above mentioned industries, the Rajasthan Khadi and Village Industries Board advanced loans of Rs. 8 thousands and four thousands respectively to processing of cereals industry and pottery industry respectively during 1969-70.

1. Source : Office of the Secretary, Rajasthan Khadi and Village Industries Board, Jaipur.
2. *ibid.*

The following table mentions places where various cottage and village industries are concentrated in Nagaur district¹.

Industry	Centres of concentration
Handloom weaving	Jayal, Tarnau, Ferrod, Dogaston, Didwana, Bansa, Nimod, Berwa, Boodsu, Borawad, Ranigaon, Jaswantgarh, Riyan, Khudi Kalan, Thata, Harnawa, Parvatsar, Harsolao, Basni and Mundwa.
Leather tanning and shoe making	Khatu Kalan, Rol, Kuchaman City, Panchwa, Kukanwali, Maroth, Loonwa, Mithri, Chitawa, Nimbi Khurd, Seeniya, Tosina, Khatu Khurd, Boodsu, Borawad, Ladnun, Jaswantgarh, Riyan, Padu Badi, Jasnagar, Teanwala, Manji, Manglana, Gotan, Chenar and Kuchera.
Carpentry	Kategy, Lalas, Didwana, Molasar, Bhagu, Gogelag and Alay.
Pottery	Deh, Rol, Kuchaman City, Didwana, Badali, Alay, Chenar, Parvatsar and Lalana Kalan.
Rope making	Sheel, Bhakri Molas and Narma.

Industrial Co-operative Societies

The co-operation in the field of industries was introduced in Jodhpur State in 1934-35 when a co-operative store was opened in Darbar Jewan Commercial School, Ladnun. Co-operative societies were registered in Merta, Nagaur, Makrana and Parvatsar formed by small artisans. Progress of co-operation in the field of industries in the area now forming Nagaur district was as follows² :

1. *Report on Industrial Development Potentialities of Nagaur District*, Small Industries Service Institute, Jaipur, Annexure II.
2. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Nagaur.

Year	Industrial co-operative societies (Number)
1943-44	1
1944-45	2
1945-46	2
1946-47	8
1947-48	8
1948-49	9

The co-operative movement gained momentum after the integration of the state into Rajasthan when uniform laws were introduced. In 1950-51, there were 11 industrial co-operative societies in Nagaur district¹. The co-operative movement in the field has made steady progress since then. A category-wise list of industrial co-operative societies alongwith the details of their working in Nagaur district as on 30th June, 1970 is given in Appendix IV.

Industrial Area

In Nagaur, an area of 16.28 hectares (40 acres) has been declared as industrial area. Upto 31st March, 1970, 14 units have been allotted 3.25 hectares of area for establishing industrial units. Basic facilities such as power, water, connecting roads, etc. have been provided. Only development charges of Rs. 200 per 0.40 hectares (1 acre) and Rs. 30 as lease money are charged from each unit. The plots have been allotted on 99 years' lease basis, which is further renewable for the same period. Loans and subsidies are being granted to the industrial units for construction of sheds. Another scheme for declaring an industrial area at Makrana is also in progress².

Industrial Potential

Industries spring up and grow in an area where, among other things, raw material is available in abundance and the resulting products find a ready market. On this criterion, a number of industries suggest themselves in Nagaur district. But one of the limiting factors impeding the industrial development of the area is lack of adequate supply of good quality water. So long this handicap persists, it will be difficult for a number of industries, the development of which is adequately warranted

1. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Nagaur.
2. Source : Office of the Project Officer (Industries), Nagaur.

by other available economies, to find a foot hold in the district. Industries having potential for development can be grouped in three categories¹:

1. Industries for which raw material is available in the area and there is sufficient demand for the products either inside the district or outside.
2. Industries which can act as feeders to various industries existing in the district.
3. Industries for the products of which there is sufficient demand in the country and which can be started on account of existence of local enterprise and capital.

Under the first group, Nagaur has *Guar-gum*, oil crushing and paper-pulp as agro-based industries, rope making and *Tat-patti* making as forest-based industries, bone crushing, leather and tannery, wool carding, woollen yarn, carpets, *Namda* and dairy farming as livestock based industries, lime burning, chalk crayon, plaster board, marble manufacture, sweet lime mortar, sodium sulphate and stone grits and ballasts as mineral based industries.

Under the second category are included hack-saw blades, tin containers, insulation tubes and sheets, sheet metal goods such as boxes, buckets, tanks for storing water and foodgrains etc.

Air compressors, exhaust fans and air blowers, electrical horns, taxi meters, speedometers, oil pressure stoves, blow lamps, mechanical toys, spanner, chisels and planner industries come under the purview of the above mentioned third category.

State Assistance

Only nominal assistance was given by the State before merger of the area into Rajasthan. It took the form of exemption from payment of customs and allotment of land on concessional rates etc. But after the formation of Rajasthan, the State Government is actively assisting the development of industries in the district in various ways, such as allotment of land on concessional rate, development of communications and transport, supply of power at cheaper rates, providing training and other facilities to the workers and grant of loans and subsidies to persons interested in

1. Source : Office of the Project Officer (Industries), Nagaur.

starting new industries. Direct participation in industrial field by the State has taken the shapes of the setting up of Rajasthan State Chemical Works, at Didwana, and the Rajasthan Worsted Spinning Mills at Ladnun, details of which have been given in an earlier section of this chapter.

The major incentive and encouragement provided to industries in the district are in the form of loans advanced by the various State agencies, such as Industries Department under the Rural Industrialisation Project and the Rajasthan Financial Corporation.

Loans given to small scale industries by the Industries Department are detailed below¹ :

Year	Units (No.)	Amount of Loan (Rs.)
1955-56	12	79,800
1956-57	5	39,500
1957-58	7	40,000
1958-59	26	86,500
1959-60	28	1,46,500
1960-61	41	86,000
1961-62	14	60,000
1962-63	5	5,000

The Rural Industrialisation Project in Nagaur district was started in 1963-64 with a view to encouraging rural industries in the district. Loans given to various industries by the Project were as follows² :

Year	Units (No.)	Amount of Loan (Rs.)
1963-64	34	1,12,580
1964-65	49	94,500
1965-66	37	1,00,760
1966-67	58	1,36,400
1967-68	120	3,91,500
1968-69	248	5,68,762
1969-70	49	75,000

The Rajasthan Financial Corporation has also been giving loans to various industries under the State Financial Corporation Act, 1951 and Rajasthan State Aid to Industries (Loans) Rules, 1963. During 1965-66,

1. Source : Office of the Project Officer (Industries), Nagaur.

2. *ibid.*

Rs. 23,480 was advanced to stone dressing and crushing industry at $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent interest under the Financial Corporation Act, 1951. Another loan of Rs. 50,000 was sanctioned to basic industrial chemicals unit; but this loan was not availed of and hence the sanction was cancelled subsequently. During the year 1966-67, Rs. 15,000 was advanced to the stone dressing and crushing industry at 3 per cent interest under the Rajasthan Aid to Industries Rules, 1963. Another sum of Rs. 60 thousand was sanctioned to stone dressing and crushing unit in 1968-69. During 1969-70, two loans of Rs. 32 thousand and 50 thousand were sanctioned to the transport and stone dressing and crushing units respectively, under the State Financial Corporation Act, 1951. During this year, Rs. 52,500 were advanced to one unit at the rate of 4 per cent above the bank rate. Rs. 52,500, Rs. 20,000, Rs. 40,000 and Rs. 26,000 to stone dressing and crushing (3 units) and manufacturing of non-metallic minerals products, wrapping, packing, filling etc. of articles (one unit each) and manufacturing industries not elsewhere classified (2 units) were sanctioned.

Besides advancing loans and giving grants, the Rural Industrialisation Project, Nagaur is assisting the small scale and cottage industries in marketing their products and in various other ways such as technical assistance, registering and approving of schemes, acquiring controlled commodities used as raw materials, getting imported machinery and power supply etc.

Industrial Relations

The number of industrial disputes and complaints in the district is small. The relations between the employers and the employees are cordial. Whatever complaints are reported, relate to increase in wages, bonus, and retrenchment etc. The details of industrial disputes have been given in chapter XVII, viz. Other Social Services.

Labour Welfare

The working conditions inside the factories are regulated by different labour laws. A labour welfare centre run by the State Labour Department at Makrana, looks after the welfare activities of the workers. Detailed description of labour welfare is given in Chapter XVII, viz. Other Social Services.

EMPLOYERS' AND WORKERS' ORGANISATIONS

Employers' Associations

There are no registered organisations of employers in the district¹.

1. Source : Office of the Labour Commissioner, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

However, District Industries Association, Nagaur, Salt Manufacturing Association, Kuchaman, Limestone Dealers' Association, Merta, Pushkar Bus Association, Merta City, Grain Dealers' Association and Kirana Merchants' Association are working in the district to look after the interests of their members.

Trade Unions

Eight registered trade unions were working in the district in 1969-70. Their details have been given in Chapter XVII of this volume.

APPENDIX I

Small Scale Industries in Nagaur District

S. No.	Group/Industry	Number of units	Investment (Rs. in lakhs)	Employment (No.)	Estimated annual production (Rs in lakhs)
I. BUILDING MATERIAL (MINERAL BASED):					
1.	Manufacture of structural clay products such as bricks, tiles	2	0.08	10	0.08
2.	Manufacture of lime	14	8.00	349	29.96
3.	Manufacture of cement and cement products	43	5.85	175	5.90
4.	Manufacture of stone images	1	3.25	26	6.51
5.	Manufacture of structural stone goods, stone dressing and stone crushing	107	80.1	958	75.34
6.	Manufacture of stonewares other than images	7	8.63	133	15.07
7.	Manufacture of plaster and plaster products	5	2.57	46	2.20
8.	Others (Mineral Based)	1	0.92	58	0.80
II. AGRO BASED :					
1.	Production of bread, biscuits, cake and other bakery products	3	0.07	8	0.19
2.	Production of edible fats and oils other than hydrogenated oil	16	18.3	87	94.19
3.	Production of rice, pulses etc. by milling, dehusking and processing of foodgrains	5	9.08	29	13.49
4.	Production of <i>bidis</i>	8	1.56	96	4.74
5.	Production of <i>mirch-masala</i>	4	1.14	22	0.11
6.	Production of <i>guar-gum</i>	1	0.48	7	0.64
III. CHEMICAL :					
1.	Manufacture of medicines	6	0.63	22	0.42
2.	Manufacture of soap and other washing and cleaning compounds	5	0.83	14	1.30
3.	Manufacture of inedible oils and fats (soap oil and hair oil)	8	0.40	14	0.63

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
4.	Manufacture of fertilisers	1	1.00	3	12.00
5.	Manufacture of Sodium Sulphate	1	2.00	32	—
6.	Manufacture of plastic goods	1	0.30	8	0.50
7.	Manufacture of confectionery	1	0.08	2	0.05
8.	Manufacture of perfumery	3	0.12	3	0.03
9.	Vulcanising	11	0.68	28	0.68
10.	Manufacture of nylon buttons	2	0.42	11	0.19
11.	Manufacture of bangles	3	0.74	14	2.07
12.	Manufacture of candles	1	0.01	4	0.03
13.	Manufacture of chalk	4	0.22	7	0.06
14.	Tyre retreading	1	0.09	2	0.07
IV. PAPER AND PAPER PRODUCTS :					
1.	Manufacture of paper bags	2	0.75	22	—
2.	Printing Press	1	0.13	2	0.04
3.	Binding (exercise books)	1	0.64	9	0.63
V. MISCELLANEOUS :					
1.	Manufacture of umbrellas	1	0.01	2	0.02
VI. TEXTILES:					
1.	Cotton weaving in handlooms	10	1.94	71	2.93
2.	Cotton weaving in powerlooms	5	0.07	14	0.19
3.	Manufacture of Hosiery	4	0.49	19	0.54
4.	Printing of cotton textiles	2	0.29	8	0.09
5.	Manufacture of textile garments (readymade)	5	0.20	17	0.15
6.	Manufacture of textile products other than garments (pillow cases, bedding materials, mattress)	2	0.30	11	0.44
7.	Wool spinning mills	1	10.17	43	0.21
8.	Wool weaving in power looms	3	0.14	30	0.27
9.	Cotton dyeing bleaching (Bandhez)	1	0.67	9	1.00
VII. LEATHER, LEATHER TANNING AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS					
1.	Manufacture of shoes and foot-wear	6	0.21	23	0.34

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
2.	Tanning and finishing of hides and skins and preparation of finished leather	13	1.13	207	2.24
3.	Production of ducks, hens and other small birds, eggs by rearing and poultry farming	1	0.04	1	0.03
VIII. FOREST PRODUCTS BASED :					
1.	Manufacture of wooden furniture	5	0.80	15	0.45
2.	Manufacture of wooden transport equipment	8	0.61	37	0.97
3.	Manufacture of <i>moonj ban</i> , ropes etc.	5	0.30	17	0.32
4.	Sawing of wood	2	0.12	4	0.03
5.	Manufacture of other wooden and carpentry articles	10	0.92	44	0.97
IX METAL, ENGINEERING ETC.					
1.	Manufacture of iron and steel furniture	8	1.18	31	2.00
2.	Fabrication	11	1.08	39	1.17
3.	Manufacture of agricultural implements	14	0.91	43	0.80
4.	Manufacture of hand tools	6	0.86	49	7.85
5.	Manufacture of balances	3	0.95	19	1.25
6.	Repairing works (iron goods)	6	0.67	16	0.22
7.	Manufacture of machine parts	4	1.18	66	4.59
8.	Manufacture of medical and surgical instruments and equipments	1	0.08	4	0.22
9.	Manufacture of iron and steel goods	10	1.33	39	1.85
10.	Manufacture of iron and electrical goods	1	0.05	2	0.05
11.	Radio repairing	1	0.02	2	0.03
12.	Manufacture of cinema parts	1	0.22	3	-
13.	Manufacture of crane machinery	3	0.57	8	0.26
14.	Manufacture of animal drawn and hand drawn vehicles	1	0.19	2	0.05

APPENDIX I (Concl'd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Manufacture of dynamo electric machine	1	0.06	2	0.05
16.	Manufacture of motor bodies	1	0.64	8	0.37
17.	Manufacture of brass utensils	1	0.09	3	0.09
18.	Manufacture of pumps	1	0.27	8	0.24
19.	Wire netting	1	0.07	4	—
20.	Manufacture of spare parts	2	0.54	7	0.37
21.	Manufacture of steel cutlery	1	0.77	3	0.05
22.	Manufacture of tubs etc.	1	0.30	7	0.20
23.	Manufacture of steel trunks	1	0.03	2	0.07
24.	Manufacture of tin cans	1	1.46	8	0.83

Source : Office of the Project Officer (Industries), Nagaur.

APPENDIX II

Localities electrified in Nagaur district upto 31-3-1970

S.No.	Name of locality	Tahsil	Date of electrification
1.	Nagaur	Nagaur	26-1-1960
2.	Kuchaman	Nawa	20-5-1962
3.	Mundwa	Nagaur	14-8-1962
4.	Basni	Nagaur	30-3-1962
5.	Daulatpura	Didwana	13-4-1962
6.	Ladnun	Ladnun	31-12-1962
7.	Kuchera	Nagaur	25-10-1962
8.	Baliya Bas	Didwana	1963-1964
9.	Nimbod	Didwana	29-4-1963
10.	Ladariya	Didwana	29-4-1963
11.	Makrana	Parvatsar	4-4-1963
12.	Nawa	Nawa	25-7-1963
13.	Narayanpura	Nawa	31-2-1964
14.	Borawad	Parvatsar	10-11-1964
15.	Mithri	Nawa	31-12-1964
16.	Kari Garon ki Dhani	Parvatsar	4-4-1963
17.	Rasidpura	Didwana	22-3-1963
18.	Dabra	Didwana	12-3-1965
19.	Kasumbi Alipur	Ladnun	30-3-1965
20.	Manglana	Parvatsar	24-3-1965
21.	Didwana	Didwana	2-8-1960
22.	Molasar	Didwana	22-8-1968
23.	Jaswantgarh	Ladnun	Sept. 1961
24.	Khatu Khurd	Didwana	12-3-1965
25.	Khatu Kalan	Jayal	12-3-1965
26.	Kichak	Didwana	15-3-1965
27.	Parvatsar	Parvatsar	13-6-1965
28.	Barabara	Didwana	17-8-1965
29.	Pyawa	Didwana	31-10-1965
30.	Riyan	Didwana	31-10-1965
31.	Nimbi Kalan	Didwana	Dec. 1965
32.	Katiyasani	Merta	21-12-1965
33.	Abas	Nawa	23-1-1966
34.	Saniya	Didwana	27-1-1966
35.	Ledy	Ladnun	30-3-1965
36.	Bhagwanpura	Nawa	31-1-1966

1	2	3	4
37. Bijapura		Nawa	31-1-1966
38. Koliya		Didwana	8-2-1966
39. Khuri		Didwana	25-2-1966
40. Maroth		Nawa	27-2-1966
41. Maharajpura		Nawa	27-2-1966
42. Singrawat Kalan		Didwana	28-2-1966
43. Solayan		Nawa	15-3-1966
44. Peedwa		Didwana	16-3-1966
45. Shyamgarh		Nawa	24-2-1966
46. Gamaliyawas		Degana	25-3-1966
47. Gangwa		Parvatsar	31-3-1966
48. Jatabas		Merta	29-3-1966
49. Jajasan		Merta	29-3-1966
50. Riyan Bari		Merta	29-3-1966
51. Suriyas		Merta	29-3-1966
52. Firozpura		Nagaur	31-3-1966
53. Bhagu (Shri Balaji)		Nagaur	31-3-1966
54. Sardarpura		Didwana	31-3-1966
55. Merta		Merta	N. A.
56. Baliyabas		Didwana	1963-1964
57. Khunkhuna		Didwana	22-12-1966
58. Chhapri Kalan		Didwana	21-12-1966
59. Dhankoli		Didwana	24-1-1967
60. Bansa		Didwana	8-2-1967
61. Mithri		Ladnun	15-2-1967
62. Gelasar		Parvatsar	18-2-1967
63. Bhadliya		Didwana	14-2-1967
64. Kairap		Didwana	28-2-1967
65. Burod		Didwana	13-3-1967
66. Nuriyas		Jayal	7-3-1967
67. Jhintiya		Merta	19-4-1966
68. Padu Khurd		Merta	19-4-1966
69. Sheshbada		Merta	19-4-1966
70. Palara		Nawa	31-12-1966
71. Sanwatgarh		Nawa	19-1-1967
72. Dasawas		Merta	13-2-1967
73. Akbwas		Merta	13-2-1967
74. Rohisa		Merta	19-2-1967
75. Panchota		Nawa	25-2-1967

1	2	3	4
76.	Aspura	Nawa	27-2-1967
77.	Beejathal	Merta	4-3-1967
78.	Panchwa	Nawa	23-3-1967
79.	Kod	Degana	29-3-1967
80.	Deoriya Jata	Merta	29-3-1967
81.	Jasnagar	Merta	29-3-1967
82.	Pabu Kalan	Merta	19-4-1966
83.	Kalwa	Parvatsar	31-3-1967
84.	Jeoliyawas	Didwana	31-3-1969
85.	Barangna	Didwana	31-3-1969
86.	Ladwa	Merta	11-2-1969
87.	Keriya Mankra	Merta	24-2-1969
88.	Barayli	Merta	1-3-1969
89.	Bhawal Mertiyani	Merta	15-3-1969
90.	Basni Lunkaran	Merta	23-3-1969
91.	Medas	Merta	24-3-1969
92.	Hanumanpura	Nawa	25-3-1969
93.	Surajpura	Nawa	25-3-1969
94.	Lungiya	Merta	27-3-1969
95.	Gunawati	Parvatsar	25-3-1969
96.	Junjala	Jayal	31-3-1969
97.	Kurdayan	Merta	31-3-1969
98.	Atiyasan	Nagaur	31-3-1969
99.	Dukosi	Nagaur	31-3-1969
100.	Basni Nathoo	Merta	7-2-1970
101.	Kumari	Nagaur	5-3-1970
102.	Kalethra	Merta	14-3-1970
103.	Jaroda Kalan	Merta	28-3-1970
104.	Khokhar	Parvatsar	29-3-1970
105.	Khokhri	Ladnun	29-3-1970
106.	Ugarpura	Nawa	31-3-1970
107.	Jamsar (Jausar)	Nagaur	31-3-1970
108.	Ladpura	Degana	31-3-1970
109.	Jeenwar	Nawa	31-3-1970
110.	Shyampura	Parvatsar	29-3-1970

Source : Office of the Executive Engineer (LD), Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Jaipur.

APPENDIX III

List of Registered Factories in Nagaur District (1969)

Name and address of the factory	Average No. of workers employed
1. Saboo Industries, Kuchaman Road	25
2. Merta Oil Mills Co., near Station, Merta City	6
3. Jagdamba Oil Mills, Katchery Road, Merta City	9
4. Bhanwar Lal Tak Salt Works, Kuchaman City	—
5. Prahlad Chand Agrawal & Co., Sargoth Salt Works, Nawa (closed)	—
6. Jangid Kasta Kala Udyog, Merta City	1
7. Kasta Kala Udyog, Kuchaman Road	2
8. Jagdish Wood Furniture Co., Gandhi Chowk, Parvatsar	1
9. Kissan Lakri Chirai Udyog, Kishangarh Road, near Caltex Pump, Parvatsar	1
10. Kashi Prasad & Brothers, Mohalla Deen Darwaza, Didwana (closed)	—
11. Bhanwarlal Jangid Ara Machine, near Power House, Didwana (closed)	—
12. Shri Chelaram Daluram Jangid Ara Machine, Didwana (closed)	—
13. Taparia Printing Press, Sadar Bazar, Didwana	2
14. Upadhyaya Printing Press, Didwana	1
15. Anand Printers, Nagaur	1
16. Lohia Printing Press, Nagaur	4
17. Varma Printing Press, Charbhuj Mandir, Merta City	1
18. Rajasthan State Chemical Works, Post Marwar Bolia via Didwana (Sodium Sulphate Plant)	75
19. H.H. Chhotuji Gulabji & Co., Makrana	9
20. Makrana Marble & Stone Co., Makrana	43
21. S. Abdul Hakim Hussain Bux, Makrana	36
22. H.H. Hussain Bux Fazalji, Makrana	23
23. Gajdhar Marble Co., Makrana	9
24. Rajasthan Marble Factory, Makrana	10
25. B. L. Vaisya & Sons, Makrana	12
26. H. S. Nathu & Co., Makrana	8
27. Raghu Nandan Prasad & Co., Makrana	19
28. Santi Ballabh Mineral Industries, Kuchaman Road	29
29. Jain Ashok Marble Factory, Makrana	9

APPENDIX III (Concl'd.)

1	2	3
30.	Jain Marble Factory, Makrana	15
31.	Choudhary Marble Works, Makrana	12
32.	Natha Marble Industries, Makrana	33
33.	Shri Kailash Marble Works, Makrana	8
34.	Chokhani Marble Chips Factory, Gunawati Road, Makrana	11
35.	Kamal Marble Factory, Makrana	14
36.	Krishna Marble Industries, Makrana Road, Borawad	14
37.	Mool Chand Ramchand Natha Workshop, Makrana	26
38.	Hazi Rahim Bux Allah Bux, Makrana	35
39.	Rajasthan Lime Industries, near Rly. Station, Merta Road (closed)	—
40.	Nagaur Chemical Lime, Marwar Mundwa	102
41.	Emery Stone Manufacturing Co., Kuchaman Road	44
42.	Chohan Industries, Nagaur	59
43.	Gotan Lime Syndicate, Gotan	75
44.	Kailash Pati Marble & Stone Factory, Mochion ka Mohalla, Borawad	17
45.	Sabu Iron Industries, opp. Railway Godown Shed, Kuchaman Road	17
46.	Jain Metal Works, Nagaur (closed)	—
47.	Agarwal Tin Manufacturing Co., behind Dak Bungalow, Merta City	15
48.	Sabu Engineering Works, Kuchaman Road	27
49.	Assistant Engineer, Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Power House, Nagaur (closed)	—
Total		860

Source : *List of Registered Factories for the year 1969*, issued by Office of the Chief Inspector, Factories & Boilers, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Note : All factories are private except Rajasthan State Chemical Works, Didwana.

APPENDIX IV

List of Industrial Co-operative Societies other than Weavers in Nagaur district as on 30th June, 1970

S. No.	Type of societies	Societies (No.)	Members (No.)	Liabilities	Working capital	Paid-up capital	(Amount in Rupees)		
							Deposits	Borrowings	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
1.	Charam Utpadak	68	1,620	4,30,265	3,51,380	1,34,837	5,897	2,09,163	
2.	Tel Ghani	24	258	4,60,705	4,16,588	56,432	18,574	3,39,418	
3.	Calico Printers	14	275	81,740	61,423	21,318	7,810	32,291	
4.	Namak Utpadak	7	85	61,805	61,348	10,054	7,003	35,182	
5.	Loha Utpadak	8	154	38,595	32,539	8,875	4,308	19,335	
6.	Harijan (Others)	3	40	6,361	5,631	872	8	4,734	
7.	Readymade garments	3	35	9,766	9,410	4,400	—	5,000	
8.	Marble	5	145	76,473	57,555	47,439	1,772	7,859	
9.	Ivory	2	27	27,783	25,622	4,100	4,270	17,234	
10.	Bartan Utpadak	3	52	29,743	23,274	4,995	1,749	16,527	
11.	Pottery	1	12	12	12	—	—	—	
12.	Resha Udhog	1	12	30	30	30	—	—	
13.	Others	1	67	20,829	17,229	2,500	—	14,662	
14.	Jewrat (Goldsmithy)	1	11	3,300	3,290	3,290	—	—	
15.	Chhatra (Others)	1	15	1,408	940	40	—	900	
16.	Lakh Utpadak	1	11	70	70	27	43	—	
17.	Chaki Nirman	2	27	9,766	9,766	3,700	45	6,000	
18.	Vishwa Karma	1	11	2,200	2,200	2,200	—	—	

APPENDIX VI (Concl'd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
19.	Khadi Udhog	1	40	7,906	6,906	813	—	6,072
20.	Bidi Utpadak	3	42	14,749	14,562	2,900	2,517	9,000
21.	Int Bhatta	1	16	3,670	3,760	1,650	2,200	—
22.	Automobile (Others)	1	15	1,527	1,527	1,500	27	—
23.	Chuna Utpadak	1	25	2,500	2,500	2,500	—	—
24.	Munja Mudha	1	17	1,000	1,000	1,000	—	—
	Total	154	3,012	12,92,003	11,08,472	3,24,562	56,323	7,23,377

Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Nagaur.

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

BANKING AND FINANCE

History of Indigenous Banking

The Indian States of Rajputana, according to the Banking Enquiry Committee of 1929-30, enjoyed the reputation of being the home of bankers since ancient time¹. The indigenous money lenders and bankers essentially served as middlemen, lending financial support to commercial activities at various levels. They were variously known as *boharas*, *Sethis*, *sarafs* etc². These bankers also acted as money changers³, converting coins of one state into those of others, thus facilitating inter-state trade. In the country-side the loans were given both for productive and unproductive purposes. The short-term loans were usually unsecured and given on the understanding, that the next harvest would be sold to or through the creditor. However, long-term or large advances were given only against pledges of movable or immovable property.

There are proofs of the existence of large houses of bankers and financiers, some of which were *Nagar Seths* and acted as premier traders and money lenders. Their operations were widespread and they lent money even to princes in times of financial stringency due to wars or other reasons. The branches were managed by their agents, known as *munims* or *gumashtas*. The common bill of exchange was the *hundi*⁴.

A peculiar custom prevalent in the State of Jodhpur was that the *Mukhtias* and the *Chowdharis* would borrow money in the name of their villages from money lenders ostensibly for the purpose of benefitting the villages, and all the villagers were held responsible for the payment of such

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1. *Report of the Banking Enquiry Committee for the Centrally Administered Areas, 1929-30*, Government of India, p. 328.
 2. Sharma, G. N., *Social Life in Mediaeval Rajasthan*, Agra, p. 337.
 3. *ibid.*, p. 338.
 4. *ibid.*, p. 339.

loans. It was never authentically ascertained whether the money raised was solely used for the benefit of all the inhabitants of the villages. The then Government of Jodhpur appointed a committee in 1914-15¹ to scrutinise this type of borrowing. This committee also enquired into the system of *Bhoglawa* or usufructuary mortgage which had been in high favour in Marwar for a long time past². The conditions attached to this kind of mortgage were such that the mortgagee retained not only the possession of the property but also enjoyed usufruct in the form of rents and profits in lieu of interest or in some rare cases, partly in lieu of interest and partly in lieu of payment of a portion of principal. The payment of amount of the loan was 80 years from the date of mortgage on expiry of which the mortgagee used to become absolute owner. This was derogatory to the interest of the mortgager and of the State. No rate of interest was fixed in *Bhoglawa* mortgage deeds and generally nothing out of rents and profits, however large they may be, was credited towards the payment of original loan. In the end the property in the majority of cases automatically passed to the mortgagee. The Marwar Bhoglawa Rules were framed in 1915 and amended in 1916-17 to regulate the system.

To safeguard the interest of debtors, the Rajasthan Moneylenders Act was passed in the year 1963 which came into force with effect from 1st October, 1965. Under this Act the Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies is the registering authority for money lenders. Applications and fee received from the money lenders and licences issued to them from 1st April, 1966 to 31st December, 1969 are given below³:

Year	Applications received (No.)	Fee received (Rs.)	Licences issued (No.)
1966	2,328	34,920	—
1967	2,366	35,490	173
1968	2,394	35,910	664
1969	2,433	36,494	1,324

GENERAL CREDIT FACILITIES

Indebtedness

No survey to indicate the nature or extent of indebtedness has been conducted. However, the area being prone to frequent droughts, the

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1914-15*, p. 20.

2. *ibid.*, p. 21.

3. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Nagaur.

rural population must have been facing the problem. To provide relief to the debtors the Marwar Relief of Indebtedness Act was passed in 1941¹, under which Debt Conciliation Boards were established. Each Board consisted of one government official and two non-official members one representing the debtors and other the creditors, and was competent to affect settlement between debtors and creditors in cases when the loan amount did not exceed Rs. 5,000 in an individual case. The Act envisaged the establishment of such boards among other places at Nagaur, Merta, Didwana and Parvatsar. Rajasthan Moneylenders Act, 1953 regulates borrowing and lending conditions now through its provisions.

In recent years there has been a gradual replacement of old agencies of credit by new ones. There were 660 persons (615 males and 45 females) engaged in money lending in 1951; the figure declined to 345 (324 males and 21 females) in the year 1961 (Census figures).

Joint Stock Banks

The first step for the development of joint stock banks in the district was taken in 1905-06 when the Marwar Agricultural Bank Act, 1906 was passed by the Jodhpur State². An Agricultural Bank with a capital of Rs. 41,310 was established in the year 1907. The Indian Post Office Act of 1898 and the Savings Bank Act, 1873 were introduced in the state with effect from 1st October, 1907³.

The following joint stock banks are operating in the district at present.

CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA—This bank has its head office in Bombay. It established its first branch at Nagaur on 17.11.1944, at Kuchaman and Merta City on 16.10.1961 and its last branch at Molasar on 24.8.1969. This bank provides to its customers all sorts of banking facilities. Current, savings bank, fixed deposit and recurring deposit accounts are opened and deposits are accepted from individuals and firms and others. Foreign bills are collected. Inland and foreign letters of credit are issued. Remittances to all places where they have their branch offices are sent by means of drafts, mail transfers and telegraphic transfers. Shares and securities are sold and purchased on behalf of the customers. Loans and advances

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1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, 1942-43, p. 107.
 2. *Supplementary Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, for 6 months ending 30th September, 1906, p. 3.
 3. *ibid.*, 1907-08, p. 9.

are granted against approved securities to trade, small scale industries and agriculture.

NEW BANK OF INDIA LTD.—This bank has only one branch in the district located at Didwana, which was opened on 8.7.1965.

UNITED COMMERCIAL BANK—This bank has been nationalised recently (1969). There is only one branch of this bank functioning at Kuchaman since 21.2.1970.

STATE BANK OF BIKANER AND JAIPUR—This is the only bank in the district which has been registered in Rajasthan. The Bank of Bikaner Ltd. functioned in the area prior to its nationalisation when it was renamed State Bank of Bikaner, which merged with the State Bank of Jaipur on 1st January, 1963 and since then has been operating under the name of the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur as a subsidiary of the State Bank of India. Ladnun branch of this bank was opened on 7.1.1947. This bank has been working as banker and treasurer to the Government of Rajasthan and like other commercial banks provides all the banking facilities to its customers. There are 10 branches of this bank in the district.

At present, the district is thus being served by four banks through their branch offices. Didwana, Kuchaman, Merta City and Nagaur are being served by two banks each while other centres have the facility of one bank each. There are in all sixteen branches of various banks in the district, details of which are given below¹:

S.No.	Bank	Branch Office	Date of opening
1.	New Bank of India Ltd.	1. Didwana	8.7 1965
2.	Central Bank of India	1. Kuchaman	16.10.1961
		2. Merta City	16.10.1961
		3. Nagaur	17.11.1944
		4. Molasar	24.8.1969
3.	United Commercial Bank	1. Kuchaman	21.2.1970
4.	State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur	1. Ladnun	7.1.1947
		2. Nagaur	14.11.1949
		3. Merta City	14.11.1949

1. Source : Chief Officer, Reserve Bank of India, Central Office, Department of Banking Operations and Development, Bombay.

1	2	3	4
		4. Didwana	2.1.1960
		5. Makrana	31.5.1960
		6. Nawa	25.1.1961
		7. Degana	24.1.1961
		8. Parvatsar	26.3.1969
		9. Jayal	30.1.1970
		10. Mundwa	30.5.1970

Co-operative Credit Movement

The Marwar Co-operative Societies Act was passed in 1923 but practically nothing could be done till 1937 towards improving the credit facilities for the rural population.¹ Before setting up of the Co-operative Department, the services of a Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Punjab were taken by the Jodhpur State on loan to investigate the possibility of setting up such a department. In his report, he suggested that grounds for starting co-operative societies be prepared by means of propaganda and distribution of literature on the subject as well as by adequate legislation. The establishment of Co-operative Department was contemplated in 1935 and an officer was sent to Punjab for training. The department ultimately came into being in 1937 and a Registrar, Co-operative Societies appointed with effect from 1.3.1938. The field staff consisted of one inspector and, five sub-inspectors. Four inspectors were engaged in propaganda work from June, 1938 and they visited 84 villages carrying to the people the message of co-operation.² In the beginning the department mainly concentrated on encouraging the habit of thrift among the people and providing cheap credit to the villagers at the time of need through mutual help. Later its activities were extended to various other fields of co-operation like agriculture, marketing, housing, education and industry etc. The first co-operative thrift and credit society in the area now forming Nagaur district was formed at Charanbas (Parvatsar tahsil) on 9.7.1938 with 14 members. In addition to the low rate of the interest and discount on stamp duty and registration fee, the additional benefits which were very significant were that a member could depend upon accounts carefully maintained and audited, in one ledger, a copy of which was entered in his pass-book. He also enjoyed ancillary benefits like freedom to sell his produce in most profitable markets and of compulsory savings. The

1. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1937-38*, p. 65.

2. *Ibid.*

movement helped in instilling confidence in the peasants as a means of solving their economic difficulties. It also brought about a reduction in usurious rates of interest prevalent in villages. It dissuaded the farmers from spending money on wasteful social and religious ceremonies. Loans were given by the thrift and credit societies at an interest rate of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent as compared to 24 per cent to 75 per cent charged by the money lenders. The old debts incurred by the members from other sources were also got settled and liquidated by the societies.

The marble workers of Makrana also formed co-operative thrift and credit societies which saved them from usurpation and created capital out of their monthly savings.¹ A noteworthy feature of the year 1940-41 was registration of a sale and supply society which linked thrift co-operation with marketing. There were 49 co-operative thrift and credit societies, 6 fodder storage societies and one sale and supply society in Jodhpur State in 1940-41². Their number went up to 56, 7 and 1 respectively during 1941-42³. Bal Sahkari Samiti at Darbar Jeewan School, Ladnun was registered on 30.9.1944. The Co-operative Department extended its activities in *parganas* of Merta, Nagaur and Parvatsar during 1939-40.

The Marwar Co-operative Societies Act, 1923 was repealed by the Marwar Co-operative Societies Act, 1943. The number of co-operative thrift and credit and other societies in the area of the present Nagaur district from the year 1938-39 to 1948-49 is given in the following table⁴ :

Year	Thrift & credit societies	*Other societies	Total
1938-39	6	—	6
1939-40	8	—	8
1940-41	8	—	8
1941-42	8	2	10
1942-43	8	3	11
1943-44	13	3	16
1944-45	13	5	18
1945-46	23	7	30
1946-47	24	17	41
1947-48	25	17	42
1948-49	26	43	69

1. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1937-38*, p. 66.

2. *ibid.*, 1940-41, p. 75.

3. *ibid.*, 1941-42, p. 73.

4. Source : Office of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Nagaur.

* Including fodder, industrial, store, sale and supply, federation and multi-purpose societies.

After the formation of Rajasthan in 1949, the Marwar Co-operative Societies Act, 1943 was repealed and the Rajasthan Co-operative Societies Act, 1953 came into force with effect from 1st April, 1953.

The main attempt in the co-operative sector during the First Five Year Plan was to integrate and consolidate the co-operative movement which was in varying stages of development. The position of the co-operative movement in the beginning and end of the Second Five Year Plan in Nagaur district is given below¹:

Particulars	(Number)			
	1956-57		1960-61	
	No.	members	No.	members
1. Central co-operative bank	1	169	1	546
2. Central non-credit societies	2	27	8	376
3. Agricultural credit societies	112	3,316	397	26,806
4. Agricultural non-credit societies	30	482	62	909
5. Primary land mortgage bank	—	—	1	253
6. Non-agricultural-credit societies	2	42	7	201
7. Non-agricultural non-credit Societies	138	2,640	238	5,597
8. Societies under liquidation	2	226	30	583

Thus, during the year 1956-57 the total number of societies was 297 having 6,902 members, Rs. 2.96 lakhs as share capital and Rs. 8.63 lakhs of working capital which increased to 744, 35,271, Rs. 18.93 lakhs and 107.85 lakhs respectively during 1960. Loans advanced and recoveries made in 1956-57 were Rs. 2.45 lakhs and Rs. 0.21 lakh respectively as against Rs. 60.29 lakhs and Rs. 27.40 lakhs respectively in the year 1960-61².

During the Third Five Year Plan, greater emphasis was laid on revitalisation of the existing societies. The position of co-operative movement in the district at the end of the Third Five Year Plan (1965-66) was as follow³.

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1958 (pp. 98-99), and 1961 (pp. 170-71).
2. *ibid.*, p. 96 and p. 166 respectively.
3. *ibid.*, 1967, pp. 104-105.

Particulars	No.	Members
1. Central co-operative bank	1	557
2. Central non-credit societies	10	1,532
3. Agricultural credit societies	496	37,916
4. Agricultural non-credit societies	75	1,058
5. Primary land mortgage bank	1	736
6. Non-agricultural credit societies	14	395
7. Non-agricultural non-credit societies	306	7,295
8. Societies under liquidation	52	1,100

Thus, during 1965-66, the total number of societies was 955 having 50,589 members, Rs. 29.96 lakhs as share capital and Rs. 124.91 lakhs as working capital. Loans advanced amounted to Rs. 47.14 lakhs and recoveries made stood at Rs. 29.30 lakhs¹.

The details of co-operative movement in Nagaur district as on 30.6.1970 are given below²:

Particulars	Number	Members
1. Central co-operative bank	1	488
2. Central non-credit societies	10	1,752
3. Agricultural credit societies	393	48,196
4. Agricultural non-credit societies	66	948
5. Primary land mortgage bank	1	1,860
6. Non-agricultural credit societies	15	433
7. Non-agricultural non-credit societies	330	12,350
8. Societies under liquidation	78	1,589

During the year 1969-70, the total number of societies was 894 with 67,596 members. The share capital was Rs. 53.61 lakhs and working capital amounted to Rs. 315.28 lakhs. Loans of Rs. 153.07 lakhs were advanced and recoveries made were Rs. 120.10 lakhs³.

THE NAGOUR CENTRAL CO-OPERATIVE BANK LTD.—Besides the head office at Nagaur, three branches of this bank are functioning at Makrana, Merta City and Ladnun. While the Nagaur office was opened in 1957, the other three branches were started in 1960, 1962 and 1964

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1967, p. 103.

2. *ibid.*, 1970, pp. 98-99.

3. *ibid.*, 1970, p. 97.

respectively. The initial membership of the bank (1956-57) was 169; it increased to 488 in 1969-70. All co-operative societies of Nagaur district are affiliated to this bank, which in turn is affiliated to the Rajasthan State Co-operative Bank Ltd. The important functions of this bank are (i) to advance loans for the purchase of agricultural implements, fertilisers, improved seeds, bullocks, digging of wells, and soil conservation etc. to primary co-operative societies and in general, to provide necessary assistance for the economic uplift of the rural population, (ii) to supervise the financial aspect of the working of co-operative societies of the district, (iii) to borrow money from members and non-members within the limit fixed by the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, (iv) to advance loans to the depositors against security of fixed deposit receipts and (v) to carry on general banking business, under which the bank also extends bills purchase facilities to small industrial units under Reserve Bank of India guarantee. Details regarding the working of the bank upto 1969-70 are given below¹:

Year	Members (No.)	Loans (Rs. in '000)		Capital (Rs in '000)		Deposits (Rs. in '000)	Borrow- ings(Rs. in '000)
		Advanced	Recovered	Share	Working		
1956-57	169	3	-	61	62	0.07	-
1957-58	235	430	88	111	N.A.	116	258
1958-59	303	700	446	156	1,095	N.A.	N.A.
1959-60	461	2,415	697	383	N.A.	251	1,985
1960-61	546	3,351	1,781	575	4,921	484	3,862
1961-62	575	4,293	4,765	719	4,375	450	3,206
1962-63	576	849	2,302	735	3,227	434	2,059
1963-64	632	1,445	850	857	4,543	606	3,080
1964-65	666	2,833	3,229	992	4,083	896	2,187
1965-66	557	2,812	1,301	1,019	4,835	1,158	2,629
1966-67	577	2,519	4,613	1,078	5,014	1,516	2,582
1967-68	557	4,593	4,992	1,200	6,501	1,538	3,579
1968-69	583	7,687	6,084	1,525	9,974	1,460	6,738
1969-70	488	9,684	9,587	1,890	12,548	1,848	8,545

PRIMARY LAND MORTGAGE BANK—This bank was registered in the district on 24th September, 1960 with a view to providing long-term credit.

1. Source : Office of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
N.A.=Not Available.

to the cultivators for the purchase of land and making improvements on it. Details of progress since its inception are given below¹:

(Rupees in thousands)

Year	Membership (No.)	Loans		Capital		Borrowings
		Advanced	Recovered	Share	Working	
1960-61	253	--	—	3	3	—
1961-62	253	—	—	3	3	—
1962-63	289	—	—	3	3	—
1963-64	289	—	—	4	6	—
1964-65	464	19	—	5	300	24
1965-66	736	188	—	17	288	271
1966-67	828	133	16	23	354	329
1967-68	1,100	610	21	76	1,056	978
1968-69	1,446	655	56	139	1,677	1,534
1969-70	1,860	648	97	231	2,313	2,071

During 1969-70, the bank had 1,860 members, Rs.2,30,854 paid-up capital and Rs. 23,13,082 working capital; Rs. 20,71,026 represented its borrowings and Rs. 6,358 deposits. The bank advanced loans to the tune of Rs. 6,48,300 of which Rs. 1,32,200 were given for repairing and sinking of wells, and Rs. 4,04,100 and Rs. 1,12,000 respectively for the purchase of agricultural machinery and for other miscellaneous purposes. Loans recovered during the year amounted to Rs. 97,267.

Rajasthan Financial Corporation

The Rajasthan Financial Corporation was established to provide medium and long-term finance to industries. The details of loans given by the Corporation in Nagaur district have already been discussed in Chapter V.

Government Loans

The Government of the erstwhile State of Jodhpur started disbursing loans in the form of *taccavi* to the cultivators in 1896 for agricultural purposes especially for the repair of wells and for the purchase of seeds and bullocks.

After the formation of Rajasthan, *taccavi* and other loans have

1. Source : Office of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

been advanced by the Government for land development, as ordinary revenue *taccavi*, installation of pumping sets, famine and under Grow More Food Campaign. Year-wise details regarding loans advanced and recoveries made from 1950-51 to 1969-70 have been given at Appendix I.

General and Life Insurance

The following insurance companies, were reported to be operating in the then Jodhpur State:

1. Oriental Life Assurance Co. Ltd.,
2. Bharat Insurance Co. Ltd., and
3. The Bombay Mutual Life Assurance Co. Ltd.

There was no branch office of any insurance company in Nagaur district area and the agents and sub-agents used to secure business on commission basis.

Before the formation of Life Insurance Corporation of India, life insurance business was undertaken both by foreign and Indian insurance companies. The insurance business was not substantial and there was no branch office of any insurance company in the district, yet the agents and sub-agents of the Oriental Life Assurance Co. Ltd., the Bharat Insurance Co. Ltd., and The Bombay Mutual Life Assurance Co. Ltd., were paying visits periodically to secure business. After nationalisation of life insurance and formation of the Life Insurance Corporation of India, Nagaur district was placed under the jurisdiction of Ajmer Division of Northern Zone of the Corporation and a sub-branch office is located at Nagaur. This office was set up in 1956 as a development centre with a staff consisting of a clerk and a peon. It was raised to the status of a sub-office in 1960 and the staff then consisted of an Assistant Branch Manager, 7 clerks, three peons and 8 Development Officers. In 1962, it was up-graded as a branch office but was degraded again to a sub-branch in 1969 due to insufficient business collected through it. The staff as on 30.3.1970 consisted of an Assistant Branch Manager (Development), 10 Development Officers, 10 clerks, 3 class IV servants and 169 Agents. Four Development Officers have their headquarters at Nagaur and they look after the work of insurance business in Jayal, Mundwa, and Nagaur Panchayat Samitis; the one posted at Merta City supervises the work of Merta and Riyan Panchayat Samitis. Development Officer, Ladnun supervises the insurance work of Ladnun and Makrana Panchayat Samitis and the remaining four Development Officers are posted one each at Didwana,

Degana, Parvatsar and Kuchaman City to look after the development of insurance business of the respective Panchayat Samitis. Year-wise details of Insurance business in Nagaur district are given below:

Year	Policies sold (No.)	Sum assured (Rs in lakhs)
1961-62	2,109	84.01
1962-63	2,407	88.00
1963-64	1,948	79.89
1964-65	1,725	72.57
1965-66	2,195	93.89
1966-67	1,730	74.71
1967-68	1,839	84.77
1968-69	1,520	78.20
1969-70	1,917	114.60

Since 1964, the office of the Life Insurance Corporation of India has also been undertaking the business of general insurance such as fire, marine, accident, workmen's compensation, machinery erection and miscellaneous (burglary, theft etc.).

STATE INSURANCE—In 1953, the Government decided to extend the scope of compulsory State Insurance Scheme which existed only in erstwhile Jaipur State to the whole of Rajasthan and consequently Nagaur district was brought in the state insurance fold. The scheme was extended in three phases; in the first phase it was made applicable to all the permanent employees of the state drawing a pay of Rs. 51 or above. In the second phase, it sought to cover all the permanent employees of state drawing a pay above Rs. 35 p.m. and in the third phase it was extended to all the permanent employees of State. The first, second and third phases of the scheme were implemented in Nagaur district on 1st April 1954, 1st April 1955 and 1st September 1956 respectively. The scheme was made applicable to the employees of the Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishad with effect from 2nd October 1959, but was withdrawn later from 1st February 1962, and only those employees were continued to be covered who had been brought under its purview prior to 1962. In 1960 the scheme was also made applicable to the temporary employees of the Government also, except in the case of those who were not likely to be made permanent in the opinion of their drawing and disbursing officers. In 1965, the scheme was

1. Source : Office of the Senior Divisional Manager, Life Insurance Corporation of India, Ajmer.

made applicable to all the temporary employees who had put in six months of service. The State Insurance Department issues two types of policies, one under the endowment plan and the other under the whole life plan. The progress of State Insurance in Nagaur district is shown in the following table¹:

Particulars	Unit	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
1. Policies in force	No.	5,315	5,414	5,500	5,615	5,720	6,150	6,350	5,922	5,641
2. Premium received	Rs. in '000	N.A.	N.A.	293	313	345	390	437	553	615
3. Claims paid due to										
(i) Death	No.	8	13	9	11	14	14	22	11	18
(ii) Maturity	No.	25	32	37	34	48	40	48	46	54
(iii) Surrender	No.	10	14	23	6	21	14	7	5	8
4. Amount of claims paid by										
(i) Death	Rs. in '000	8	14	7	12	19	25	29	21	45
(ii) Maturity	,,	13	13	15	22	25	30	38	49	48
(iii) Surrender	,,	0.7	2	2	0.4	6	3	1	1	2

National Savings

A unit of the National Savings Organisation of the Government of India was opened at Nagaur in November, 1957 to secure investment in National Savings, to appoint and train agents for the purpose of forming Savings Groups in offices, educational institutions, and private firms to assist people in depositing their money in National Savings Securities, to organise meetings and addresses to popularise savings schemes in rural and urban areas, and to launch special drives. A District Organiser of National Savings Organisation is now posted at Nagaur. The position of gross and net collections under various schemes in Nagaur district are shown as follows²:

1. Source : Office of the Director, State Insurance, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

N.A.=Not available.

2. Source : Office of the Regional Director, National Savings, Government of India, Jaipur.

Year	('000 Rs.)	
	Gross Collections	Net Collections
1961-62	1,116	485
1962-63	695	3
1963-64	891	383
1964-65	764	173
1965-66	1,091	397
1966-67	1,758	672
1967-68	2,040	942
1968-69	1,703	88
1969-70	1,561	(-)48

Special drives for small savings were organised in the district during 1961-62, 1966-67 and 1967-68.

Currency and coinage

In ancient times, punch marked coins were in vogue, which were having different symbols upon them such as a tree, an animal, a bow, sun or a man. During the reign of the Kshatrapas the coins were known as Dram. The Hunas looted the treasure of Iran and brought it to India; since then Sasanian coins came in circulation. During the Chauhan period their coins were in vogue. When the Mughals came into power in India, they started their own coins. When they became weak, the rulers of Rajputana opened mints with the permission of emperor¹.

The earliest coins² issued from Nagaur are believed to be Amar Shahi copper coins of Maharaja Amar Singh, during the seventeenth century. Next were the coins of Maharaja Ajit Singh believed to have been minted at Ajmer in or about 1721. Maharaja Bijay Singh is said to have opened a mint at Jodhpur in 1761 A.D.³. According to G. H. Ojha, however, the mint at Jodhpur was opened in 1781 A.D.⁴. The name of Bijeshahi has continued till recent times on the coins of Jodhpur State and upto the year 1858 A.D., the name and symbols of Mughal Emperor Shah Alam appeared on the coins issued, whereafter the name of Queen Victoria was substituted in place of the Delhi Emperor. The coins of Jodhpur State were of gold, silver and copper and were in vogue throughout Marwar. There were five mints in Marwar located one each at Jodhpur, Pali, Sojat, Merta and Nagaur, the last two in the area now in Nagaur district. The Nagaur and Merta mints were under the charge of the *Hakims* of the respective *parganas*. Rules regarding coining operations of these mints were framed but coining mostly seems to have depended on the market demand and fluctuation of Jodhpur

1. Ojha, G. H., *The History of Rajputana*, Vol. IV, Part I, pp. 18-19.

2. Erskine, K. D. *op. cit.*, p. 142

3. Webb, W.W., *The Currencies of the Hindu States of Rajputana*, p. 40.

4. Ojha, G.H., *The History of Rajputana*, Vol. IV, Part I, p. 19.

rupee in relation to British India Currency¹. These mints were of primitive type and were worked by hand. The dies for silver and gold coins were changed on 15th of *Shrawan badi* each year. After 1863 A.D., coins struck by the Durbar bore the *samyat* year in which they were issued. The dies for copper coins were not changed yearly but only when it was felt necessary².

There was a custom that each newly appointed *Daroga* (mint master) of *Taksal* (mint) selected his mint mark (or die) or device of his own on the basis of which the coins issued by him and for which he was responsible could be recognised. This explains the large number of small marks found on the coins of the State.³ The coins from various mints were distinguished by formation and arrangements of the letters in the inscriptions, and by other devices. The specimen from Nagaur mint bore a part of or an entire *Jhar* on one side and a part of or an entire sword above the Hindi letters *Sri Mataji* on the reverse.⁴ The *Jhar* and the sword were the special marks of Marwar or Jodhpur State. The *Jhar* formed on coins consisted of seven to nine branches. The nine branch *Jhar* is found on the original Bijeshahi rupee and on the Lullulia coins. Its local name is *Turra*, signifying an ornament worn on the turban. The local name of sword mark is *Khanda*.

Gold was perhaps coined for the first time in 1781 A.D. from the same die from which silver coins were struck and the coin was popularly known as *Muhr*.⁵ They were issued upto and during the early part of the reign of Maharaja Takhat Singh, who came into his early inheritance in 1843 A.D. The silver coins of the State were the rupee, half-rupee and quarter-rupee pieces. The weight of the gold coin was 169.9 grains Troy. The weight of first silver coin (Bijeshahi) was 176.4 grains consisting of 9 *mashas* and 6 *rattis* of silver, 3 *rattis* of alloy or 169.9 grains of silver and 6.5 grains of alloy in a rupee. The alloy was about $\frac{1}{27}$ th part.⁶ The original Bijeshahi copper coin of the State was also called Dhabu Shahi on account of its weight.⁷ In the time of Bhim Singh (1793–1803 A.D.), the name was changed to Bhim Shahi. 100 Jodhpur rupees were intrinsically equivalent to about 10½ British rupees.

1. *Report on the Administration of Jodhpur State, 1884-85*, p. 93.

2. Webb, W.W., *The Currencies of the Hindu States of Rajputana* (1893), p. 41.

3. *ibid.*, pp. 41–42.

4. *ibid.*, p. 41.

5. *ibid.*, p. 43.

6. *ibid.*, pp. 44–45.

7. *ibid.*, p. 47.

The only vassal¹ of Jodhpur State, allowed to strike his own coin was the *Thakur* of Kuchaman who belonged to Udawat clan; but no gold and copper coins were struck by him. The silver coins moulded at Kuchaman were rupee, eight anna and four anna pieces. They were first coined in 1788 A.D. at Ajmer. The old Kuchaman coins were styled Ektesanda (Sanah) and were sometimes called *Borsi* rupees. The Kuchaman coins were current in Kuchaman territory, Kishangarh and in parts of Marwar. They were mostly used by the bankers and by the Rajputs in paying largess to temples or to *Bhats* and *Charans* on the occasion of their marriage ceremonies. As the Kuchaman rupee was of less intrinsic value than the Bijeshahi coin it was magnified by one quarter when using it as a medium of exchange with the latter.² During the years 1893-94 and 1894-95, 3,06,518 and 15,316 coins respectively were struck by the Kuchaman mint.

During 1884-85, receipts from duties realised from imports of several metals and miscellaneous receipts at Nagaur mint amounted to Rs. 780-15 annas.³ During the year 1888-89 mints at Merta, Nagaur and Sojat were closed⁴ but the Nagaur mint was reopened on 11th September, 1893 to meet the increasing demand for currency by the people as the value of silver had depreciated considerably.⁵ Nagaur mint struck 2,31,900, 44,655 and 12,477 Bijeshahi rupees during 1893-94⁶, 1894-95⁷ and 1895-96⁸ respectively. The coinage of silver fell considerably during 1897-98 due to stringent measures taken by the then ruler of Jodhpur to safeguard against the flow of depreciated bullion.⁹

Other currencies in circulation in Marwar were Akhai Shahi, Jalorlia, Chandori, Ektisanda (Kuchamani) and Bhilara but their number was quite small.¹⁰ The value of local currency since the closure of the Imperial mints to free coinage of silver considerably fell and exhibited an abnormal tendency of depreciation; the currency question was discussed and with the concurrence of the British Government, the ruler of Jodhpur decided to introduce British currency in place of the State coins and make the former coin the only legal tender throughout the State. All

1. Webb, W. W., *The Currencies of the Hindu States of Rajputana* (1893), p.49.

2. *ibid.*, p. 52.

3. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, 1884-85, p. 93.

4. *ibid.*, 1888-89, p. 53.

5. *ibid.*, 1893-94, p. 36.

6. *ibid.*

7. *ibid.*, 1894-95, p. 48.

8. *ibid.*, 1895-96, p. 53.

9. *ibid.*, 1897-98, p. 44.

10. *ibid.*, 1884-85, p. 93.

the State mints were accordingly closed to the coinage of silver. An advance of Rs. 15 lakhs free of interest was made by the British Government for converting the local currency (Bijeshahi and Iktisanda) into British coins. The conversion scheme commenced from 1st May, 1900 and during the stipulated period of six months, 92,73,628 Bijeshahi and 9,53,506 Iktisandas were remoulded at the agreed rate of exchange of Rs. 110 and Rs. 150 respectively for 100 British rupees *Kaldars* at the conversion charges of Rs. 44,068 i.e. 4 annas 3 pies per cent.¹

Owing to wild fluctuations in the rate of local copper coin called Dhabu Shahi which affected the poor people particularly, they were also gradually withdrawn from circulation and improved copper coins of lighter weight, designated as Sardar Shahi at 64 pice per rupee were issued.²

During the year 1941-42, a committee was appointed to enquire into the question of improving the methods of assaying and stamping silver³. Due to shortage of small change in the market during 1942-43, the Government decided to mint new copper pices of less weight than the current Umedshahi which were ordered to be withdrawn from circulation. A scheme was framed to mint copper pice of about 45 grains in weight of the total value of about Rs. 80,000 and to arrange their proper circulation⁴.

At present decimal coins are in circulation in the district, as elsewhere in the State and the country.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Historical Sketch

The trade and commerce of Jodhpur State was highly developed in olden days, as it formed the connecting link between the sea coast and Northern India. The chief mart was at Pali where the merchandise from all parts of India including Kashmir and other countries such as China, were bartered for those of Europe, Africa, Persia and Arabia. Caravans from part of Kutch and Gujarat brought ivory, copper, dates, gum, borax, coconuts, broad-cloth, silks, sandal wood, camphor, dyes, drugs, spices, coffee etc., and exchanged them with chintzs, dry fruits, cuminseed, assafoetida, sugar, opium, silk, muslins, shawls, dyed blankets, arms, potash

1. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1900-1901*, p. 10.

2. *ibid.*, 1907-08, p. 39.

3. *ibid.*, 1941-42, p. 67.

4. *ibid.*, 1942-43, p. 101.

and salt¹. The Charans who were the bards of the Rajputs, were the guardians of the merchandise and even the most desperate outlaw seldom dared to commit any depredation on the caravans under the custody and protection of these persons.² The chief centres of trade in the area forming the present Nagaur district were Nagaur, Kuchaman, Ladhun, Merta, Parvatsar, Didwana and Makrana.

The introduction of various taxes and transit duties viz., *rahdari*, *mapa*, *dalali*, *chungi*, *tolai* etc. hampered the growth of trade in Marwar upto 1882³ and the monopolist spread its tentacles deep. Colonel Tod described it in picturesque language : "The torpedo touch of monopoly has had more effect on the caravans than the spear of the desert *Sahrai* or out-lawed Rajput." In 1882-83 the Customs Department was reorganised and a universal tariff based on the principle of low rate of duty on necessities and high rate on luxuries was introduced, and all harassing imposts enumerated above were abolished except import, export and transit duties; of these the last were abolished in 1891, except on opium and other intoxicants⁴. The then Government gave every possible impetus to trade and facilities to those engaged in it.

Imports

In recent times there has been an increase in the volume of imports into the district. The chief items of import are *gur*, sugar, cloth, perfumery, spices, soaps, ivory, sticks, gold, silver, iron, steel, cement, medicines, wood, dry fruits, tobacco, *biris*, kerosene oil, tea leaves, rice, and utensils etc. The important places from where these articles are obtained are Uttar Pradesh, Bombay, Delhi and Madhya Pradesh⁵.

Exports

The important articles which are in surplus in the district and exported to other areas are hand tools, marble and its various products, sheep, goats, bullocks, camels, wool, ivory-articles, *desi* shoes, animal bones, hides and skins, etc⁶.

1. Erskine, K.D., *Rajputana Gazetteers*, Vol. III-A, p. 118.

2. *ibid.*

3. *ibid.*

4. *ibid.*

5. Source : Office of the Marketing Officer, Agriculture Department, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

6. *ibid.*

Trading population

According to 1961 Census, persons engaged in trade and commerce in the district numbered 10,198 males and 364 females, of which 5,256 males and 192 females lived in rural areas while 4,942 males and 172 females plied their profession in urban areas. The working proprietors in wholesale trade were 518 (all males), and in retail trade their number was 5,767 (5,595 males and 172 females). Tahsilwise details are given below¹:

(Number)

Tahsil	Rural		Urban	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
1. Ladnun	254	24	1,056	24
2. Didwana	451	73	619	17
3. Jayal	393	7	—	—
4. Nagaur	1,383	14	1,174	51
5. Nawa	484	20	963	18
6. Degana	663	7	447	22
7. Parvatsar	871	17	118	3
8. Merta	757	30	805	37

Trade Centres

REGULATED MARKETS—There are three regulated markets in the district, viz., Merta City, Nagaur and Kuchaman City. The regulated market notified for Merta City consists of the area falling within the limits of Panchayat Samitis of Merta, Riyan and Degana. Besides, the area covered by the municipal board of Merta is also included in the notified market of Merta. It started work on 2.5.1967 though the market committee was established on 13.5.1965. The commodities regulated are wheat, *jowar*, *bajra*, maize, gram, *moth*, *moong*, *til*, groundnut, chillies, cuminseed (*zira*), coriander (*Dhania*), *guar*, *sarson* and *rai*. There is also a sub-market yard at Degana. There were 18 'A' class brokers, 28 traders, 77 retailers as market functionaries on 31.3.1970. Market charges are fixed. The brokerage commission is levied at 1.25 per cent (payable by seller), *Hamali* including bag filling and putting on beam scale is put at 8 paise per bag (payable by seller), sewing 10 paise per bag, and weighment charges come to 5 paise per bag². Arrivals of agricultural commodities

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, p. 127.
2. Source: Office of the Secretary, Krishi Upaj Mandi, Merta City.

in Merta City market for the last eleven years ending 1969-70 are given below¹ :

(quintals)							
Year	Wheat	Gram	Bajra	Jowar	Til	Groundnut	Moong
1958-59	75	391	384	492	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
1959-60	18,760	14,797	5,744	10,480	16,059	N.A.	N.A.
1960-61	14,964	10,494	4,106	7,470	8,984	N.A.	N.A.
1961-62	7,983	4,977	16,758	23,184	91,312	12,130	590
1962-63	28,085	28,163	22,794	22,651	67,842	2,441	6,733
1963-64	9,669	4,006	10,444	7,887	15,071	2,018	3,548
1964-65	2,367	21,362	32,425	12,251	9,570	476	2,183
1965-66	4,941	13,825	20,175	3,343	31,772	4,313	4,464
1966-67	2,697	N.A.	27	140	N.A.	90	N.A.
1967-68	12,780	325	25,655	6,420	71,703	15,535	20,535
1968-69	17,647	17,839	37,323	21,490	25,485	10,017	4,758
1969-70	26,036	6,068	8,838	5,736	9,658	4,305	3,316

The area of Nagaur market includes the limits of municipal board, Nagaur and Panchayat Samitis of Nagaur, Jayal and Mundwa. The Market Committee, Nagaur, was established on 13.5.1965 and the regulation work of the *mandi* started with effect from 15th August, 1966. This market is situated on Jodhpur-Bikaner railway line and is very well connected with all the important places of the district. There are two sub-market yards, one each located at Kuchera and Mundwa. The regulated commodities dealt in the market are wheat, barley, maize, *jowar*, *moth*, *moong*, *til*, ghee, gram, groundnut, rape and mustard, chillies and wool. There were 438 market functionaries in all during 1969-70, of which 15 were 'A' class brokers, 65 traders, 357 retailers and one co-operative society².

Kuchaman City market area, as notified, consists of the limits of Panchayat Samitis of Kuchaman, Parvatsar and Makrana and municipal board, Kuchaman City. The *mandi* is surrounded by tahsils of Didwana and Degana, Danta Ramgarh (Sikar district) and Sambhar (Jaipur district). It falls on the Agra-Jodhpur railway line and is well connected by a net-work

1. Source : Office of the Secretary, Krishi Upaj Mandi, Merta City.

N.A.=Not Available.

2. Source : Office of the Marketing Officer, Agriculture Department, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

of kutchra and pucca roads which are normally not blocked to traffic in any season and enable a smooth flow of commodities to and from the *mandi*. It is an important wholesale market having its hinterland extending within a radius of 25 miles (40 km.). In the absence of any market yard, the shops have been located on either side of the main pucca road in Sadar Bazar of Kuchaman City. The commodities which are regulated are wheat, barley, *bajra*, gram, *moong*, *til*, and *gur*. The functionaries of the market are 33 'A' class brokers, 63 traders and 126 retailers. The approximate annual arrivals into this *mandi* are 1,00,000 quintals. About 70 per cent of the produce is brought by the farmers themselves. Market charges before and after regulation of the market were as follows¹ :

Particulars of charges	Before regulation	After regulation
1. Commission	1.87 per cent	1.25 per cent
2. Weighing and handling	0 15 „ „	0.28 „ „
3. <i>Karda</i> , <i>Dhara</i> etc.	2½ kg. per bag of 100 kg.	—
4. Market cess (fees)	—	0.25 „ „

RETAIL MARKETS—In urban areas there are markets which can be classified as primary and secondary. The former mostly deal in items which are locally produced in their hinterland, while the latter trade in commodities which are imported from outside and exported in bulk to other parts.

In rural areas village shop-keepers and periodical *hats* play an important role in trade and commerce. Most of the villages have one or two shops which provide its inhabitants with their day-to-day necessities. Except foodgrains and other agricultural produce which the village shop-keeper purchase from the producer, he obtains his goods from the nearby towns where due to his business relations he can get credit facilities. His stock generally includes grain, groceries, raw and refined sugar, salt, chillies, oil, spices, soap, tea leaves, tobacco, *biris* and articles required by the people of the village for their day-to-day use. Every village does not have a cloth shop but a few cloth shops are located in some of the villages in each tahsil, so that the villagers do not have to go every time to purchase cloth

1. Source : Office of the Marketing Officer, Agriculture Department, Rajasthan, Jaipur and Secretary, Krishi Upaj Mandi, Kuchaman City.

in urban areas. Exchange of commodities is not generally favoured, though sometimes cultivators pay in grains when they do not have cash with them. The village shop-keeper also acts as supplier of credit, both directly by advancing loans in cash, or indirectly by offering sales on credit. A few village shop-keepers who are rich, deal in fuel, machinery, building material, transport vehicles, and other manufactured commodities.

PEDLARS AND HAWKERS—The itinerant merchants go on hawking merchandise from village to village but this avocation is declining because the villagers now prefer to purchase their necessities from village shops or from shops in neighbouring town when they go there for any other purpose. The pedlars usually move from village to village particularly in harvesting season and sell their merchandise against cash or kind or sometimes on credit. The loans are entered in their account books and realised when they revisit the village. They usually carry their goods on horse or camel backs or on their own shoulders. In some parts which are well connected with roads, cycles are also used. A pedlar obtains his merchandise from any town and sells the same in villages to the customers who become quite familiar with him due to his frequent visits. When his stock exhausts he replenishes it periodically from the neighbouring town. Pedlars can be classified according to the commodities they handle. Grocers handle groceries and spices. *Bisatis* handle general wares such as soap, nail polish, mirror, comb etc. Cloth dealers sell cloth, bed sheets etc. In 1961 there were 218 hawkers, pedlars and street vendors in the district of which 192 were in urban areas and only 26 were in rural areas.

Co-operation in Trade

Wholesale and retail co-operative consumers' stores have also been established in the district to sell goods to customers at reasonable rates and to minimise the number of intermediaries. Much headway, however, has not been made in this field as yet. On 30th June, 1970 there existed one Central Store (Sahkari Upbhokta Wholesale Bhandar) and 43 Primary Consumers' Co-operative Stores. The Central Store (Sahkari Upbhokta Wholesale Bhandar) had three branches, and 2,369 members. The share capital and working capital were Rs. 1,40,791 and Rs. 2,55,256 respectively. It sold sugar worth Rs. 2,92,745 and other commodities worth Rs. 1,93,786 during 1969-70. 43 primary consumers' stores had a membership of 4,405 persons as on 31st March, 1970. Their share capital, working capital and sales during 1969-70 were Rs. 1,18,025, Rs. 3,01,117 and Rs. 9,19,284 respectively.

Rajasthan State Warehousing Corporation

This Corporation is providing facilities for storage of goods on scientific lines at Merta City since September 1969. The position of staff as on 31 March, 1971 was as follows :

Warehouse Incharge	1
Technical Assistant	1
Lower Division Clerks	2
Godown Keeper	1
Class IV servants	2

Goods in the godowns of the Corporation are preserved with the help of pesticides and insecticides. The stocks are insured against the risk of fire and theft and depositors can obtain advances from banks by pledging warehouse receipts. The storage charges for foodgrains are 25 paise per bag not containing more than 101 kg. and for fertiliser Rs. 2.40 per tonne.

The income and expenditure, total storage capacity and stocks held by the Rajasthan State Warehousing Corporation centre at Merta City during the last five years are given below¹:

Year	Income (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)	Total storage capacity (tonnes)	Goods stored (tonnes)
1965-66	9,088	6,391	751	557
1966-67	12,196	9,290	700	528
1967-68	15,223	17,517	800	814
1968-69	7,498	9,364	212	190
1969-70	1,57,028	32,715	13,457	13,457

Fairs

Nagaur is famous for its milch cows and beautiful bullocks. Cattle fairs held in the district attract large number of traders and farmers from the Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat as well as from the other districts of Rajasthan and a flourishing trade in livestock is carried on in the fairs. Some of the important fairs of the district are as follows: (i) Tejaji cattle fair, Parvatsar, (ii) Baldeo cattle fair, Merta City (iii) Ramdeo cattle fair, Nagaur.

Details of transactions at these fairs are given in Chapter IV.

Among other fairs which are not very important from trade point

1. Source : Office of the Marketing Director, Rajasthan State Warehousing Corporation, Jaipur.

of view may be mentioned Parasnathji ka Mela held every year on *Bhadrapad Sudi 10* (August-September) at Merta Road near the Railway station. Mostly Jains congregate in this fair to pay their homage to the deity of Shri Parasnathji. Charbhujaji-ka-Mela is held in the month of *Shrawana* (July-August) every year at Merta. The participants pay their homage to the deity and sing songs of Mirabai. Rolpeer Sahib-ka-Mela is celebrated at Rol in Jayal tahsil in honour of a Muslim saint in *Kartik* (October-November) every year and mostly the Muslims assemble to honour the saint whose personal belongings are exhibited on this occasion.

State Trading

There has been no State trading in the strict sense of the term. However, the government of the erstwhile State of Jodhpur took measures to influence the normal channels of trade in the interest of the consumers. During the Second World War, abnormal rise in the prices of essential commodities was witnessed due to scarcity conditions and it was felt necessary by the then Government to control the supply and distribution of these commodities. A Price Control Department was established in May 1942. The ban on export of foodgrains and their products as also on fodder, sugar and sugar products, kerosene oil, cloth and yarn, firewood, charcoal, bones and manures was imposed during the year 1941-42. The rates of principal foodgrains were fixed and movement of grains, sugar and kerosene oil from one district to another was restricted. The efforts of the profiteers and black marketeers to take advantage of this scarcity were thus frustrated. Several measures on the lines of those enacted by the Government of India were put on the statute book. *Mosars* (feasts after death) were stopped. Tyre Rationing Order was introduced with effect from 1st July, 1942. A Central Rationing Authority was constituted in 1941-42.¹ Anti-smuggling measures were vigorously enforced.² The export of paper, medicines and pack animals was prohibited. Sugar Control Order, 1942, worked satisfactorily. Rationing of sugar in crude form was introduced in Jodhpur city and some other district towns. With a view to building up stocks of foodgrains, to meet scarcity and maintain their price level, wheat and *bajra* were purchased locally and from outside during 1942-43.³ A Cloth Yarn Order was issued on the lines suggested by the Government of India. Arrangements were made for equitable distribution of standard cloth allotted to the State through normal channels. Cheap

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1941-42*, p. 8.

2. *ibid*, 1942-43, p. 3.

3. *ibid*, p. 4.

cloth was also purchased under a special agreement and its distribution was arranged through recognised dealers.¹ The ban on the export of foodgrains and other articles, prices of which were controlled under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance continued during 1943-44.² Sufficient quantity of *gur* was procured against the allotted quota and to supplement this, non-quota *gur* was also imported under the basic plan, adopted by the Government of India. Rice and wheat products were purchased from Punjab and locally for supply to the Jodhpur Railway Provision Shops and for the purpose of building up buffer stocks to meet an emergency. The Foodgrain Control Order, 1942 was extended to the entire State. Marwar Cotton Cloth Dealers Licensing Order, and the Cotton Cloth Movement Control Order were enforced. The Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance, the Drugs Control Order, Paper Control (Economy) Order, Paper Control (Distribution) Order, the Hides Movement (by rail) Order, and the Aluminium Control Order were introduced.³ A Central Food Advisory Board was constituted in February, 1946. The Cloth Advisory Committee continued to function but the Price Control Committee was abolished on 31.8.1946. Wheat was procured for rationing in urban areas. This work was done by *Hakims* with the assistance of other departments. The procurement price of wheat was fixed at Rs. 10 per maund at producers' village site up to June 30, 1946 and Rs. 9.50 thereafter. Wheat, *masoor*, *urd* and *tur* were imported from Karachi, Dewas, Bahawalpur, Sind and Patiala during 1945-46⁴. Rationing of wheat in 29 towns was introduced. The scale of ration differed from place to place, depending on the availability of other foodgrains to supplement wheat. The basic sale price of rationed wheat was fixed at Rs. 10 per maund. which was the same as its procurement price. All incidental charges like cost of transport, loss in transit and other shortages and retailers' commission were borne by the State⁵. The quota of sheep and goats for export was fixed. The Defence of India Rules lapsed at the close of the year 1945-46 but the control orders issued under the Essential Supplies Ordinance were kept alive for some commodities, mainly food stuffs and cotton textiles⁶.

Even after Independence and formation of Rajasthan some sort of control was maintained over the distribution of some commodities. Their

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1942-43*, p. 4.

2. *ibid.*, 1943-44, p. 3.

3. *ibid.*, p. 4.

4. *ibid.*, 1945-46, p. 3.

5. *ibid.*, p. 5.

6. *ibid.*, p. 6.

supply was arranged through the District Supply Officer at the district level. The Rajasthan (Display of Prices of Essential Commodities) Order, 1966 is in force at present in the district under which the traders are required to display the prices. The supply of controlled and scarce commodities is ensured to the people through Fair Price Shops. The number of Fair Price Shops in Nagaur district through which these commodities were distributed and sold during the last four years was as follows:¹

(Quintals)				
Year	Shops (No.)	Wheat	Milo	Jowar
1966-67	150	1,03,006	44,380	—
1967-68	35	20,610	18,504	—
1968-69	13	6,130	564	639
1969-70	140	27,983	5,917	8,006

Merchants' Association

The formation of associations of traders help in the smooth development of trade on scientific lines, but much progress has not been made in this field in Nagaur district. However, such associations have been formed in the district, though they have not been functioning very actively. Their names as on 31st March, 1970 are given below:

Association	Location
1. Grain Merchants' Association	Nagaur
2. " " "	Didwana
3. " " "	Degana
4. " " "	Merta
5. " " "	Ladnun
6. " " "	Kuchaman City
7. Cloth Merchants' Association	Nagaur
8. " " "	Didwana
9. " " "	Kuchaman
10. Halwai Sangh	Nagaur
11. Traders' Union	Degana

Weights and Measures

Before the formation of Rajasthan, different systems of weights

1. Source : Office of the District Supply Officer, Nagaur.

and measures were in vogue in Jodhpur State. In Merta town, 100 tolas were equal to one seer whereas in other places like Nagaur and Didwana it was 80 tolas and 86 tolas respectively. In some Jagir areas, seer consisted of 40 tolas and was popularly known as a *kutch* seer. In most areas of the State, however, a seer weighed 100 tolas as compared to 80 tolas in British India. As elsewhere, it was divided into *adha ser* (half seer), *Pao ser* (quarter seer) and *chhatank*, the last being equal to $3\frac{1}{2}$ pice (Dhabu Shahi). For wholesale trade in vegetables, articles were often weighed by *Panseri* (5 seers), *Pao manna* (10 seers) and *adha manna* (20 seers). For wholesale transaction in foodgrains markets, the standard weight was *manna* (maund). The traditional measures of distance was *Kos* equivalent to $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles and it is still popular among the village people. In land measurement operations, the *Jarib* (chain) 132 feet in length was used. For measuring cloth, *Gaj* (yard) was used.

Prior to 1934-35 stamping of weights and measures in Jodhpur State was being done by the respective municipalities within their areas. In the year 1934-35 the work was transferred to the mints and the State Government framed the draft of the Weights and Measures Act and referred it to the State law drafting committee. The Marwar Weights and Measures Act, 1936 was passed during 1935-36, and it came into force with effect from 13th March, 1937. The main object of this Act was to bring about uniformity in all weights and measures prevalent in various parts of the State. The Act, in the first instance, was made applicable to Jodhpur city but it was extended to other areas of the State gradually. A weights and measures section was created in the Jawarkhana and Mint Department of the State with a view to test, verify and stamp weights and measures required by the public. It also maintained a stock of weights and measures especially manufactured on scientific basis for sale to the public¹. In 1940-41, 5,420 new weights and measures were issued to the public and the number of those verified was 4,425 and in 87 cases they were seized and confiscated. Work of verifying and stamping petrol pumps was taken up for the first time in 1940-41². In 1941-42, 5,278 new stamped weights and measures were issued to the public³.

After the formation of Rajasthan, the Rajasthan Weights and Measures Act, 1954 was passed; it came into force with effect from 1st September, 1956 to bring uniformity in various types of weights and

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1936-37*, p. 71.

2. *ibid.*, 1940-41, p. 67.

3. *ibid.*, 1941-42, p. 67.

measures prevalent in various States of Rajputana. Under this Act, the weights and measures were standardised. The British ~~seer~~ (80 tolas) popularly known as Bengal ~~ser~~, maund (40 seers) ~~yard~~ (36 inches), feet (12 inches) became uniform throughout the State of Rajasthan including Nagaur district. With a view to introduce metric system, the Parliament passed the Standard Weights and Measures Act, 1956. Subsequently the Rajasthan Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Act, 1958 was passed which introduced metric system in a phased programme.

This Act was made applicable to Nagaur district in the year 1960, under which a transitory period of two years was provided. Its compulsory provisions were enforced with effect from the year 1962. The capacity and linear measures were introduced in the district from 1st April, 1961, and were made compulsory with effect from 1st April, 1962.

Wide publicity was organised by the Rajasthan Government to acquaint the public with the new system of weights and measures and for their enforcement. At district level the Project Officer (Industries) was designated as Assistant Controller of Weights and Measures in 1962 and an Inspector, Weights and Measures at Nagaur and two Assistant Inspectors, Weights and Measures one each at Didwana and Parvatsar were posted. The use of old weights and measures is now punishable under the Act and they are liable to be seized and confiscated. The new weights and measures are gradually replacing the old ones. Details regarding the use of weights and measures in Nagaur district for the last two years are given in the following table¹:

Particulars	(Number)	
	1968-69	1969-70
1. Weights verified and stamped		
(i) Iron	12,633	9,296
(ii) Brass	1,290	861
2. Measures verified and stamped		
(i) Linear	859	356
(ii) Capacity	645	257
3. Measuring instruments verified and stamped	40	55
4. Beams and scales verified and stamped	4,324	3,206
5. Revenue (in Rs.)	12,665	12,951

1. Source : Controller of Weights and Measures, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

APPENDIX I
Taccavi Loans advanced and recoveries made (Nagaur District)

(Rs. in thousands)

Year	Land Development		Ordinary Revenue		Installation of pumping sets		Famine Taccavi		Grow More Food Campaign	
	Loans advanced	Recoveries	Loans advanced	Recoveries	Loans advanced	Recoveries	Loans advanced	Recoveries	Loans advanced	Recoveries
1950-51	—	—	41.2	3.7	5.0	—	—	—	—	—
1951-52	16.0	—	18.9	1.6	5.0	—	—	—	—	—
1952-53	5.0	—	12.0	10.4	19.6	—	66.1	—	—	—
1953-54	18.0	1.0	20.0	15.2	7.5	1.0	557.5	91.0	0.4	5.6
1954-55	32.5	1.2	45.0	7.0	—	0.8	3.0	250.0	43.8	30.7
1955-56	15.4	1.2	60.0	5.2	—	0.7	285.1	325.0	99.8	106.1
1956-57	—	1.5	34.4	14.3	—	0.8	—	13.5	95.9	87.1
1957-58	—	4.7	27.1	4.2	5.0	5.6	70.8	222.0	77.9	93.1
1958-59	—	5.9	34.3	254.9	4.2	1.5	15.0	110.5	89.6	43.9
1959-60	—	4.0	1.7	24.2	3.0	4.3	—	4.5	39.6	11.6
1960-61	—	10.4	—	23.7	—	6.2	—	—	132.0	14.8
1961-62	35.0	5.9	—	15.2	—	0.6	290.8	—	—	—
1962-63	20.0	10.8	—	18.5	—	4.6	—	—	—	—
1963-64	73.0	7.1	—	14.3	—	5.1	75.0	—	—	—
1964-65	71.0	28.5	—	5.8	—	—	467.6	—	—	—
1965-66	318.5	32.8	—	5.4	—	0.1	17.2	—	—	—
1966-67	220.0	415.0	—	2.3	—	—	257.0	—	—	—
1967-68	54.0	90.8	—	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
1968-69	—	107.2	—	4.6	—	4.3	—	—	—	—
1969-70	—	53.9	—	1.2	—	—	1182.0	42.9	—	—

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

OLD ROUTES

Nagaur is an ancient town of great historical importance. Located in the centre of the route from Delhi to Sind it would have witnessed armies marching past its territories and trading caravans sauntering to their destination. A number of highways connecting different parts of India would have criss-crossed the town, but unfortunately, no precise and authentic information of all old routes in the district is available.

However, several old routes are known to have passed through the desert. From Sakambhari (Sambhar) and Ajmer a route passed via Kuchaman and Churu to Sirsa and Bhatinda. Another route crossed through Didwana to Pugal and Multan. A. H. E. Boileau¹ has mentioned some routes which passed through the area now included in Nagaur district. One of them was from Bikaner to Nagaur. Another route from Bikaner to Jaipur having a distance of 92 *Kos* passed through Didwana, Kuchaman and Maroth. Third Route from Jaisalmer to Bikaner crossed through Nagaur.

On all these routes, camel-carts and bullock carts were the common means of travel and transport. The carts used on these sandy tracks had to be steady and strong to withstand the rough journey.

ROADS AND ROAD TRANSPORT

Roads

Desert conditions such as scarcity of water, extreme climate, high sand dunes and the low economic potentiality of the area have been the main hurdles in the way of road development in the district. The length of metalled and unmetalled roads was 47.5 miles and 108 miles respectively in 1906² in the whole of Jodhpur State of which Nagaur was a part.

1. Boileau, A. H. E., *Personal narration of tour through the Western States of Rajwara, comprising Beekaner, Jesulmer and Jodhpur with the passage of great desert and a brief visit to the Indus and Bahawalpoor*, 1835, p. 192.
2. Erskine, K.D., *Rajputana Gazetteers*, Vol. III-A, p. 122.

Except two short roads connecting the towns of Nagaur and Pali with their respective railway stations all the metalled roads existed in or near Jodhpur, the capital of Marwar.

Details of different types of roads in the area now forming Nagaur district¹ as on 30th September, 1946 were as follows :

METALLED ROADS :	LENGTH (MILES)
1. Narayanpura to Kuchaman	7.00
2. Didwana Station to Didwana town	0.25
3. Nagaur Station to Nagaur town	0.15
4. Merta Station to Merta town	0.31
5. Makrana to Gunaoti	1.34
6. Chandan Kui to Dharamshala at Didwana	0.66
MOTORABLE ROADS:	
1. Parvatsar to Marwar Border towards Roopnagar	3.00
2. Merta City to Degana	25.00
GRAVELLED ROADS:	
1. Jodhpur to Nagaur	84.00
2. Nagaur to Didwana	60.00
3. Didwana to Kuchaman City	25.00
4. Narayanpura to Parvatsar	15.00
5. Merta City to Alaniyawas	33.00
6. Merta City to Jaitaran	36.00

Category-wise road length in Nagaur district during various years from 1948-49 to 1969-70 is given in the following table²:

Year	Category of Roads				Total
	Painted	Metalled	Gravelled	Fair weather	
1948-49	—	24	713	—	737
1950-51	—	24	950	117	1,091
1955-56	31	109	903	93	1,136
1960-61	224	32	1,220	37	1,513
1965-66	381	26	1,259	51	1,717
1968-69	445	87	1,194	—	1,726
1969-70	465	198	1,072	—	1,735

The above table reveals that marked improvement has been affected

1. *Report on the Administration of Jodhpur State, 1945-46*, pp. 198-200.
2. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years, and Office of the Chief Engineer, Public Works Department (B & R), Jaipur.

quantitatively as well as qualitatively in the roads of the district. The total road length has gone up from 737 km. in 1948-49 to 1,735 km. in 1969-70 recording an increase of about 136 per cent. The length of painted and metalled roads went up by about fifteen times and eight times respectively during the period. The fair weather roads have altogether disappeared.

ROAD DEVELOPMENT DURING FIVE YEAR PLANS—During the Second Five Year Plan period, the expenditure per mile in Nagaur district was Rs. 0.17 lakh as compared to Rs. 0.24 lakh per mile for the State of Rajasthan¹. As on 31st March, 1961 the mileage in the district per 100 sq. miles was 13.85.

At the end of the Third Five Year Plan (1965-66) the length of roads per 100 sq. km. and per 1000 of population in Nagaur district was 9.54 km. and 1.84 km. respectively². It increased to 10 km. and 1.85 km. respectively by the end of 1968-69.

The road length was 1,136 km. in 1955-56 which increased to 1,513 km. in 1960-61 (at the completion of the Second Five Year Plan). At the end of the Third Five Year Plan period (1965-66) it further increased to 1,717 km., in 1969-70 the road length was 1,735 km³.

The roads are classified as National Highways, State Highways, Major District Roads, Other District Roads and Village Roads.

NATIONAL HIGHWAYS⁴—No National Highway passes through the district.

STATE HIGHWAYS⁵—The total length of State Highways in Nagaur district as on 31st March, 1970 was 395 km., of which 53.5 per cent was painted, 19.3 per cent metalled and 26.8 per cent gravelled. All these roads are constructed and maintained by the State Public Works Department.

1. *Second Five Year Plan, Progress Report, Rajasthan, 1956-61*, p. LLXXXI.
2. *Tritiya Panchvarshiya Yojna, Pragati Prativedan*, 1961-66 (Rajasthan), p. 290.
3. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for relevant years.
4. According to Nagpur Road Congress, 1942 classification, the National Highways are "main highways running through the length and breadth of India, connecting ports, foreign highways, capitals of provinces and of large states and including roads, required for strategic movements for the defence of India". Though responsibility of their construction and maintenance rests with the Central Government, they are maintained by the State Public Works Department out of funds made available to the State by the Central Government.
5. Nagpur Plan definition of State Highways runs as a main trunk or arterial road of province or State connecting up with National Highways or Highways of adjacent provinces or States, district headquarters and important cities within the province or state and serving as the main arteries of traffic to and from district roads. These are constructed and maintained by the State Government.

MAJOR DISTRICT AND OTHER DISTRICT ROADS—Sixteen roads fall in the category of major district roads¹. Of the total length of 435 km. of major district roads, 57.6 per cent were painted roads, 39.2 per cent gravelled and 3.2 per cent metalled roads.

VILLAGE ROADS—These roads are very important for the economic development of the district as they ensure quick, easy and cheap transport in the rural and semi-urban areas. They are generally unmetalled and have waterbound surface. There were 69 village roads in the district on 31st March, 1970.

MUNICIPAL ROADS—There are 8 municipalities in the district located at Nagaur, Didwana, Kuchaman, Nawa, Parvatsar, Ladnun, Makrana and Merta City. They look after the maintenance of the roads under their jurisdiction. The general condition of these roads in some municipalities is not very good, as unlike the district roads their maintenance is not regular and satisfactory. A total of 100.5 km. of roads including 7.5 km. of cement concrete roads, 29.0 km. long painted roads, 13.0 km. metalled roads, 37 km. gravelled roads and 14.0 km. of fair weather roads had been constructed by the municipalities as on 31st March, 1970.

Road Administration

The construction and maintenance of all roads in the district, except the municipal roads, Panchayat Samiti or inter-panchayat roads are responsibility of the State Government. Municipal and Panchayat roads are the concern of the respective local bodies though the State Government also provides funds, on an ad-hoc basis as and when such need arises, in the form of loans and grants to local bodies for construction and maintenance of roads under their charge. State Highways, major district roads and other district roads are constructed and maintained by the buildings and roads section of the Public Works Department of the State.

Road Accidents

The number of road accidents in Nagaur district is not much,

-
1. According to Nagpur Plan, Major district roads were divided into two classes according to traffic and specifications and were defined as roads traversing each district, serving areas of production and markets and connecting these with each other or with highways and railways. Major district roads were roughly of the same specification as the State highways, while other district roads are of somewhat lower specifications. They are subject to more frequent interruptions of traffic during the rains, are generally unmetalled and have water bound surface. They are also constructed, maintained and financed by the State Public Works Department.

though they do take place sometimes, resulting in some casualties or injuries and loss to the vehicles. The following are the figures showing road accidents, persons killed, persons injured and vehicles involved in Nagaur district during the years 1957 to 1969¹ :

(Number)

Year	Accidents	Persons killed	Persons injured	Vehicles involved
1957	14	3	20	17
1958	13	4	6	10
1959	18	8	5	22
1960	12	5	9	12
1961	17	7	61	19
1962	21	10	15	21
1963	27	11	28	29
1964	9	5	4	7
1965	9	2	5	11
1966	9	9	10	11
1967	9	8	12	9
1968	34	14	21	31
1969	36	11	27	37

Vehicles and Conveyances

Bullock carts, camel carts, camels, horses and other beasts of burden were the chief means of transport in rural areas in the early days. Even today, camels, bullock carts and camel carts are the chief means of transport in rural areas where roads are not developed and distances are short. These means of transport prove less expensive to the rural population, because the camels and bullocks are also kept by the farmers for various other purposes like ploughing, water lifting and threshing etc. There is thus no additional expenditure involved in maintaining them. However, the bullocks and camels carts are losing ground to buses and trucks in places which are connected by good roads. Trains and buses are being increasingly used particularly to cover long distances and the number of automobiles is increasing fast in the district.

The first motor vehicle was registered in 1924-25 when the system of licensing was introduced in Jodhpur State, under the Motor Vehicles Act, 1924 amended in September 1926. The number of motor vehicles on road in Nagaur district during the period 1957 to 1970 is given at Appendix I.

Perusal of the data given in Appendix I shows that the total

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.

number of vehicles on road has more than doubled from 424 in 1957 to 990 in 1970. The private cars and jeeps which numbered 178 in 1957 have gone up to 277. These vehicles are generally owned by well-to-do sections of the society such as big cultivators, high officials, traders and industrialists. Contract and taxi carriages which were 3 in number in 1957 have increased to 12 in 1970. These are mostly confined to the district headquarters and towns.

Bus Services

The number of registered stage carriages in the district was 89 in 1957 and 123 in 1970. The increase has been small as the area is sandy and hilly with few goods roads. However, all the important places of the district are now connected by bus routes.

Goods Traffic

There has been no marked increase in the number of goods transport vehicles. There were 108 goods carriers in the district during 1957 of which 101 were public carriers and 7 private carriers. Their number increased to 175 in 1970 of which 134 were public carriers and 41 private carriers. Public carriers have recorded an increase of about 33 per cent during 1957-70, while the number of private carriers have increased by more than five and a half times. The public carriers are used for transporting foodgrains and other goods to and from the district on government and public account, while the private carriers owned by private individuals, companies and institutions are used for transporting goods into and out of the district.

OTHER VEHICLES—The number of other vehicles registered with the District Registering Authority such as motor cycles and tricycles, tractors and others were eleven, thirty two and two respectively in 1957 which increased to forty-seven, 353 and three respectively during the year 1970.

In urban areas, horse-drawn tongas, cycles, animal-drawn and hand driven carts are some of the common means of transport and conveyance. The various types of hire carriages and cycles etc. are registered in different municipal boards of the district.

Fares and Freights

The Government of Rajasthan fixed the maximum fares and freights to be charged by the stage carriages and public carriers in 1951. The maximum fare prescribed per 1.6 km. (1 mile) per passenger for a single journey by a stage carriage was 4 pies, 8 pies and 11 pies respectively for A class, B class and C class routes respectively. These rates have been revised from time to time keeping in view the cost of operation of the vehicles.

1. Vide notification No. RD/10495/70/50/XX Dated 29.3.1951.

The latest revision of rates for fares was made with effect from 8th June, 1970¹. The rates of fares given below are exclusive of passenger tax leviable under the Rajasthan Passengers and Goods Taxation Act, 1959 for the stage carriages plying on all classes of routes in Rajasthan. These rates are the maximum rates subject to the condition that the minimum fare chargeable shall be 40 paise upto 10 km:

1. A Class routes:

(a) Ordinary service

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. For first 250 km. | 3.5 paise per kilometre per passenger |
| 2. Beyond 250 km. | 3 " " " |

(b) Express/Mail service

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1. For first 250 km. | 4 " " " |
| 2. Beyond 250 km. | 3 " " " |

2. B Class routes: 4 " " "

3. C Class routes: 5 " " "

The latest revision of rates for freights was made with effect from 30.8.1969. These rates given below, are exclusive of goods tax leviable under the Rajasthan Passengers and Goods Taxation Act, 1959 for public carriers plying on all classes of routes in Rajasthan and are the maximum freight rates to be charged for carrying load per single trip:

1. A Class routes 2.7 paise per quintal per km.

2. B Class routes 3.2 " " " " "

3. C Class routes 4.5 " " " " "

RAILWAYS

Historical Sketch

The former Jodhpur State was served by Rajputana-Malwa and Jodhpur-Bikaner Railways both of which had metre-gauge tracks having a length of 593 miles (953 km.) in 1907. The year 1875-76 marked the opening of the first railway track in the area now included in Nagaur district when branch line of Rajputana-Malwa Railway measuring 15 miles (24 km.)

1. Vide Home B (I) Department Circular No. FI(9)/25/Parivahan/68/pt.II dated 8-6-1970.

A Class route means cemented, tarred or metalled road, B Class route means gravelled or *Kankar* road, C Class routes mean all tracks, fair weather roads and other roads not included in A and B class routes.

Express service means a service that does not stop at any place before running at least 40 km. except at stops specially permitted by the Regional Transport Authority or the State Transport Authority as the case may be. Express service buses have to be fitted with rubber seats.

was laid connecting Sambhar with Kuchaman via Nawa. It was opened to traffic in 1875¹.

Work on Jodhpur-Bikaner line was first started in 1881. The first section of this line from Marwar Junction to Pali measuring 19 miles (31 km.) was opened in July 1882 which was extended upto Luni, a distance of 25 miles (40 km.) in June 1884, and was further extended to a length of 20 miles (32 km.) in March 1885 to connect Jodhpur². The extension line from Jodhpur to Merta Road measuring 64 miles was opened in April, 1891. The next section of this line measuring 35 miles (56 km.) from Merta Road to Nagaur was thrown open to traffic in October 1891. This line was further extended from Nagaur over a distance of 24 miles to reach Bikaner border and was opened for traffic in December 1891.

Jodhpur-Merta section of the Jodhpur-Bikaner line ran in north-west. From Merta Road it split itself in two branches viz., (i) Merta Road-Kuchaman Road branch via Degana measuring 73 miles (ii) Merta Road-Merta City branch line measuring 9 miles in length. The former was opened for traffic in March 1893 and the latter in January 1905³. Degana-Ratangarh section of Degana-Hisar line measuring 63 miles passing through Didwana and Ladnun was opened on 16th September 1909⁴.

Makrana-Parvatsar branch line measuring 13 miles was opened to traffic on 1st August 1928⁵.

Present Position

The district is being served mainly by the Northern Railway. It has a small portion of Phulera-Kuchaman Road metre-gauge line of the Western Railway. Besides Kuchaman Road, the only two other railway stations on this route inside the district are Gudha and Jabdinagar.

There are five lines of the Northern Railway serving the district viz. Degana-Ratangarh, Merta Road-Degana-Kuchaman Road, Makrana-Parvatsar, Marwar-Merta Road-Bikaner and Merta Road-Merta City lines. The total length of these lines in the district is 372 km. (distance between the first and the last railway stations of each track). 20 up and down trains run on these tracks connecting all the important places of the district. There are 39 railway stations in the district names of which are as follows:

1. Erskine, K.D., *Rajputana Gazetteers*, Vol. III-A, p. 120.
2. *ibid.*, p. 121.
3. Erskine, K.D., *op. cit.*, p. 121.
4. *Report on the Administration of Marwar State*, 1908-09, p. 30.
5. *ibid.*, 1927-28, p. 42.

1. Alay	2. Badabra	3. Bhadwasi
4. Balsamand	5. Besroli	6. Bidiad
7. Borawad	8. Chhilo	9. Degana Junction
10. Deshwal	11. Didwana	12. Gachhipura
13. Gotan	14. Gudha	15. Jalsu
16. Jaswantgarh	17. Jabdinagar	18. Jogimagar
19. Khajwana	20. Khatu	21. Kheduli
22. Khunkhuna	23. Kiroda	24. Kuchaman City
25. Kuchaman Road	26. Ladnun	27. Makrana Junction
28. Marwar Balia	29. Marwar Chhapri	30. Marwar Mundwa
31. Merta Road Jn.	32. Merta City	33. Nagaur
34. Parvatsar City	35. Pirwa	36. Ren
37. Sanvarad	38. Sri Balaji	39. Thathana Mithri

The railways have always played an important part in promoting economic well being of the people but their role in the economy of a scarcity stricken area, like Nagaur district, is of a vital nature. The rigours of frequent famines have been minimised to a great extent, thanks to the advent of railways which bring speedy relief to the affected areas. Even such a dire necessity as water is met by carrying it in water borne tanks to the drought affected areas. Even in normal times, large quantities of surplus commodities are carried to deficit areas for meeting the daily needs of the people. This reduces the wide gap in prices prevailing in surplus and needy areas and prevents local distress from disorganising rural economy. Besides, they afford ample opportunities for employment to the people of the district.

WATER WAYS

In the absence of perennial rivers and canals there are no water ways and consequently no navigation routes in the district.

TRAVEL FACILITIES

The district has never been a place of tourist attraction and consequently it lagged behind in providing tourist facilities which are rudimentary in nature. However, *Dharmashalas* built by rich philanthropists have been adequately serving the needs of visitors to the area. These *Dharmashalas* were of considerable importance in olden days when the means of transport were slow and halting places had to be provided on the main routes. These were maintained by charity and normally did not charge anything for lodging except a small amount for bed-stead etc. Details of *Dharmashalas* in the district are given in Appendix II.

Some of the Panchayat Samitis and municipal boards of the district

have also constructed waiting halls near the bus stands where passengers can stay without any payment.

Rest Houses and Dak-Bungalows

The State Public Works Department maintains one dak-bungalow at Nagaur and five rest houses located at Merta City, Didwana, Parvatsar, Nawa and Makrana. They are primarily meant for the use of the Government officers on duty, who are required to pay 50 paise per day in winters and Re. 1.00 in summers. Private individuals can also stay in the dak-bungalow and rest houses subject to the availability of accommodation but on higher rates of Rs. 3.50 and Rs. 4 per day during winters and summers respectively in the dak-bungalow and Rs. 2.50 and Rs. 3 in the rest houses.

The dak-bungalow at Nagaur is located at a distance of about one furlong from the railway station. It is a double storeyed building with facilities of electricity and tap-water supply. The accommodation consists of 8 rooms with attached baths etc. alongwith a pantry and a kitchen. This dak-bungalow is being looked after by a chowkidar.

The rest house at Merta City is located near the railway station and is also provided with electric light and piped water supply. A chowkidar looks after the rest house. The rest houses at Didwana, Parvatsar, Nawa and Makrana are also situated near their respective railway stations. All these rest houses also have provision of electricity and running water supply. The accommodation consists of 6 rooms at Parvatsar, 4 rooms at Didwana and 3 rooms each at Makrana and Nawa with attached bath etc.

Hotels

There are only a few small eating houses which provide meals in Indian style. These eating houses are called *dhabas* and charges are Rs. 1.50 to Rs. 2.00 per head. Non-vegetarian food is also available in a very few eating houses run either by Mohammedans or non-Marwaris. There is no hotel in the district providing European type of catering.

Other Facilities

There are no retiring rooms or railway refreshment rooms at any of the railway stations of the district. Tea stalls are however, provided at Gotan, Merta Road, Nagaur, Degana, Gachhipura, Besroli, Merta City and Kuchaman Road. Only Merta Road has a book stall and Ladnun railway station a small restaurant to cater to the needs of the passengers. Waiting rooms for the upper class passengers exist at Nagaur, Bhadwasi, Khajwana, Marwar Mundwa, Merta Road, Kuchaman City, Makrana,

Gachhipura, Degana and Gotan. Water huts (*Pyau*) for providing drinking water and public facilities arrangements have been made at Chhilo, Sri Balaji, Alay, Bhadwasi, Nagaur, Marwar Mundwa, Khajwana, Deshwal, Marwar Chhapri, Merta Road, Thathana-Mithri, Makrana, Borawad, Besroli, Gachhipura, Degana, Jalsu and Ren railway stations.

Railway rest houses are located at Merta Road, Degana, Gachhipura, Makrana, Didwana and Nagaur. Though primarily meant for Railway officers and senior subordinates they can also be used by Gazetted officers of the State government on payment of one rupee per day after obtaining permission from the railway administration.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

In early years, the *dak* was carried on camels and horses for long distances while short distances were covered on foot. The postmen were known as *Kasids* (messengers). Later, the system known as *Brahmani dak* came into vogue. It was purely a private venture in which the central agency had its representatives in many State Capitals and other important places in Rajputana for the receipt and distribution of the mail. The system was mostly used by the mercantile community and was of great help in furthering the interest of trade and commerce. The State Government had their own communication system and their mail was carried by their own employees especially appointed for the purpose. The carriage of *dak* was sometimes not free from hazards and two persons travelled together to ensure safe delivery of the *dak*.

Jodhpur State adopted the Imperial Postal Unity in 1885. All the *pargana* headquarters enjoyed the facility of postal communication with Jodhpur. The ruler and other high ranking officers of the State were granted concession of carrying on correspondence on service rates. The new system of communication resulted in greater administrative improvement and efficiency. Thus in 1890-91, there were 71 Imperial post offices in Marwar, including at Didwana, Harsolao, Maroth, Merta, Mundwa, Nagaur, Nawa and Parvatsar, which extended the facility of fully covering the risk against insurance. Highway mail robbery was sometimes committed, one of the type occurring in 1890-91 at a distance of 24 miles from Kuchaman and 8 miles from Didwana when the *dak* was being carried by a runner.

The trading community in these days indulged in a number of nefarious practices at the expense of the Postal Department. Heavy unpaid letters denoting prices of iron, stone, bricks, wood and waste paper were sent by traders in Bombay and other places for delivery to their partners in Marwar, who were delaying too long from their post of duty

in Bombay etc. The intention was to make the absentee partner pay for the postage and he refused to take delivery and the Postal Department was put to the trouble of carrying these letters to and fro. Another illegal practice consisted in clubbing a number of letters together in one packet to be carried by post and the enclosed letters were delivered by the addressee of the packet thereby defrauding the post office of its rightful dues. This practice was later banned under the Post Office Act¹.

The system of transferring money by money orders became quite popular in the beginning as it was cheaper and more convenient than the system of *hundis*. The commission charged, however, was raised from one per cent in 1889-90 to two per cent in 1890-91².

During the year 1890-91, 23 mail lines connecting Post Offices with each other and with railway stations in Marwar territory extended over 822 miles. Of these, the following six lines served the area now included in Nagaur district³:

Mail lines	Distance (miles)
1. Pushkar-Nagaur	75
2. Mundwa-Kuchera	10
3. Kuchaman Road-Maroth	8
4. Kuchaman Road-Boarawa	20
5. Didwana-Kathoti	22
6. Nagaur-Kheenwsar	25

In 1891-92 there were 18 branch post offices and sub-post offices in the area forming Nagaur district. They were located at Mundwa, Kheenwsar, Merta, Nagaur, Harsor, Kuchera, Merta Road, Didwana, Kathoti, Ladnun, Maroth, Nawa, Kuchaman City, Kuchaman Road, Borawad, Jaswantgarh, Makrana and Molasar⁴. Temporary post offices were opened during fairs, famines and on the occasion of a visit of any dignitary. In 1896-97 post offices were opened at Jayal and letter boxes were placed at many places in Didwana. In 1898-99, as an experimental measure, the Marwar durbar took upon self the responsibility of transmitting for 6 months the Imperial mail between Jodhpur, Phalodi and Sankara by the State escorted Camel *Sowars* in consideration of a fixed annual payment by the Imperial Postal Department. This resulted in speedier and more regular mail service in the State and a further extension

1. *Report on the Administration of Marwar State, 1890-91*, pp. 124-25.

2. *ibid.*

3. *ibid.*, pp. 125-26.

4. *ibid.*, 1891-92, p. 101.

was given to this system. By 1907-08 the Imperial mail was provided escort over a length of 172 miles by camels and 548 miles by runners. There were then 95 post offices in all in Marwar State¹.

The Indian Post Offices Act, 1898 and Savings Bank Act, 1873 were introduced in Marwar State with effect from 1.10.1907². The conveyance of Imperial mail from Jodhpur-Phalodi-Pokaran mail line through the Durbar, was discontinued between 1st March, 1908 and 1st March, 1911 pending grant of enhanced subsidy by the Postal Department to meet the increasing expenses of the service. Alternate-day and tri-weekly services were introduced in 1910-11 on some more lines viz. Erinpura-Jalor, Sojat-Jaitaran and Pipar Road-Kheenwsar³.

As a result of extension of postal facilities after Independence, the number of post offices in Nagaur district reached 142 during 1956-57 which further increased to 184 in 1959-60⁴. The number of post offices and telegraph offices in the district during the years 1960-61 to 1969-70 was as follows⁵:

Year	Post Offices	Telegraph Offices
1960-61	197	17
1961-62	215	17
1962-63	240	17
1963-64	240	18
1964-65	262	19
1965-66	262	6
1966-67	270	10
1967-68	290	13
1968-69	301	24
1969-70 ⁶	311	27

Location of post offices and branch offices in Nagaur district as on 31.3.1970 is given in Appendix III at the end of this chapter.

The mails are generally conveyed by EDMC and through bus contractors at some places. Majority of the offices are having daily delivery, some bi-weekly and a few weekly.

1. *Report on the Administration of Marwar State, 1907-08*, p. 38.

2. *ibid.*, p. 9.

3. *ibid.*, 1910-11, p. 39.

4. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for relevant years.

5. *ibid.*

6. Provisional figures supplied by Superintendent of Post Offices, Jodhpur.

Telegraph System

The exact date of the introduction of telegraphic communication in the area is not known. A III class combined post and telegraph office was opened at Mundwa in 1907-08. In the year 1908-09, the Jodhpur-Bikaner Railway telegraph line was purchased by the Imperial Government and twelve post offices including Kuchaman, Merta City, Pipar and Kuchera were converted into combined post and telegraph offices¹. In the year 1909-10 combined post and telegraph offices were opened at Ladnun and Didwana².

There were 17 telegraph offices in Nagaur district in 1956-57 which increased to 19 in 1964-65³.

Location of telegraph offices as on 31.3.1970 and their working hours are given below⁴ :

Location	Week days	Sundays	(Hours)
			Holidays
1. Basni	10 to 17.30	Closed	10 to 13
2. Borawad	7 to 9 & 12 to 17	„	Closed
3. Besroli	8 to 10 & 14 to 17	„	„
4. Chhoti Khatu	7 to 9.30 & 12 to 17	„	8.30 to 9.30
5. Degana	7 to 9 & 12 to 18	12 to 13	8.30 to 9.30
6. Didwana	7 to 11 & 14 to 18	8 to 10	8 to 10
7. Ghatwa	8 to 10 & 14 to 17	Closed	8 to 9
8. Gotan	7 to 10 & 13 to 17	9 to 10	9 to 10
9. Jayal	10 to 17	Closed	Closed
10. Jaswantgarh	8 to 11 & 13 to 18	„	9 to 11
11. Kuchaman	7 to 10.10 & 13 to 17.30	8.30 to 9.30 & 16 to 17	8.30 to 9.30 & 16 to 17
12. Kuchaman Road	7.30 to 10.30 & 12.30 to 17	10 to 11	10 to 11
13. Kuchera	10 to 17	12 to 13	9 to 10
14. Kheenwsar	10 to 17	Closed	12 to 14
15. Ladnun	8 to 10 & 14.30 to 18	11 to 12	8 to 10
16. Makrana	7 to 9 & 12 to 18	8.30 to 9.30	9.30 to 10.30
17. Mundwa	7 to 9 & 12 to 17	8.30 to 9.30	12 to 13
18. Molasar	7 to 10.30 & 13 to 17.30	Closed	Closed
19. Maroth	8.30 to 9.30 & 13 to 16	„	„

1. *Report on the Administration of Marwar State, 1908-09*, p.28.

2. *ibid.*, 1909-10, p. 31.

3. *Statistical Abstract Rajasthan*, volumes for relevant years.

4. Source : Office of the Superintendent Post Offices, Jodhpur Division, Jodhpur.

1	2	3	4
20. Merta City	7 to 9 & 12 to 18	8 to 9	8 to 9
21. Merta Road	7 to 9 & 12 to 17	Closed	Closed
22. Mokalsar	7 to 10 & 12 to 17	„	8 to 9
23. Nagaur	10 to 17	„	8.30 to 9.30
24. Parvatsar	8 to 10 & 12 to 17	„	Closed
25. Pandu Kalan	8 to 9 & 13 to 16	„	„
26. Ren	7 to 9 & 12 to 17	„	„
27. Riyan	8 to 13.30 & 15 to 17	„	„

Telephone Exchanges

The number of telephone exchanges and public call offices in the district during various years are given in the following table¹:

Year	Telephone Exchanges	Public Call Offices
1956-57	1	7
1957-58	1	8
1958-59	1	8
1959-60	1	9
1960-61	2	9
1961-62	2	9
1962-63	2	9
1963-64	2	9
1964-65	2	9
1965-66	3	12
1966-67	5	12
1967-68	6	14
1968-69	7	11
1969-70	7	17

The details of the seven telephone exchanges in the district during 1969-70 were as follows²:

Location of Exchange	Capacity & type	Date of starting	Working connections
1. Nagaur	100 lines CBNM	1.6.1955	154
2. Mundwa	25 „ SAX	31.3.1969	16
3. Didwana	50 „ SAX	30.11.1966	33
4. Merta City	50 „ CBNM	18.12.1965	63
5. Makrana	50 „ CBNM	28.12.1966	107
6. Kuchaman City	25 „ SAX	20.1.1968	35
7. Kuchaman Road	50 „ CBNM	1.9.1968	20

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.

2. Source : Office of the Post Master General, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

APPENDIX I

Motor Vehicles on Road in Nagaur District

Year	(Number)							Total
	Private cars and jeeps	Private buses	Motor cycles & Tricycles	Contract and taxi carriages	Stage carriers	Public carriers	Private carriers	
1957	178	1	11	3	89	101	7	424
1958	181	1	12	3	100	113	9	454
1959	174	1	14	6	102	116	9	460
1960	177	2	18	6	103	116	10	485
1961	184	2	18	6	105	112	15	497
1962	188	2	19	6	109	114	18	525
1963	191	2	21	5	111	114	23	576
1964	203	25	25	5	113	115	23	638
1965	211	2	28	5	107	123	15	684
1966	229	3	33	5	110	122	16	736
1967	228	3	35	3	112	126	31	776
1968	246	—	40	14	116	127	40	830
1969	267	—	44	15	118	133	39	917
1970	277	—	47	12	123	134	41	990

Source : *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1958 onwards.*

APPENDIX II

Dharamshalas in Nagaur District

S.No.	Name and address	Rooms
1.	Mantrion ki Dharamshala, near Rly. Station, Parvatsar	6
2.	Bagario ki Dharamshala near Police Station, Parvatsar	8
3.	Bagar ki Dharamshala, Kuchaman Road	one hall
4.	Satorio ki Dharamshala, Didwana	8
5.	Reeghthio ki Dharamshala, Didwana	11
6.	Bhalriko ki Dharamshala, Didwana	17
7.	Municipal Waiting hall, Didwana	4
8.	Charbhujia Dharamshala, Merta City	7
9.	Dharamshala, near Rly. Station, Merta City	6
10.	Dharamshala, near Bus Stand, Merta City	8
11.	Dhankio ki Dharamshala, Dhankholi	2
12.	Village Dharamshala, Chhoti Khatu	3
13.	Dharamshala, Nibodh	4
14.	Mahajan Dharamshala, near Rly. Station, Khatu	12
15.	Bansiwala Dharamshala, Khatu	8
16.	Waiting hall, Kathoti	1
17.	Mithri Dharamshala, near Bus Stand, Ladnun	4
18.	Tara Chand Singhi ki Dharamshala, Ladnun	12
19.	Radha Kishan Kalla ki Dharamshala, Ladnun	10
20.	Rang Dharamshala, opposite Rly. Station, Degana	8
21.	Shah ji ki Dharamshala, near Rly. Station, Degana	9
22.	Dharamshala, Harsor	2
23.	Dharamshala, Thanwala	4
24.	Dharamshala, Nimri kalan	6
25.	Khatik Kshtriya Dharamshala, Nawa	13
26.	Sita Ram Dharamshala, Nawa	11
27.	Madan ki Dharamshala, Narayanpur	12
28.	Mahajano-ki-Dharamshala, Kuchaman City	15
29.	Pandya-ki-Dharamshala, Kuchaman Road	16
30.	Sitaram ki Dharamshala, Kuchaman Road	8
31.	Jain Dharamshala, Maroth	7
32.	Luharia Dharamshala, Shyamgarh	6
33.	Dharamshala, Bhagwanpur	3

APPENDIX II (Concl'd.)

1	2	3
34.	Lala ki Dharamshala, Ghatwa	10
35.	Kallaji-ki-Dharamshala, Makrana	22
36.	Tosniwala Dharamshala, Makrana	18
37.	Ramdev Piti Dharamshala, Nagaur	32
38.	Ram Chandra Dharamshala, Nagaur	10
39.	Bhikam Chand Dharamshala, Nagaur	8
40.	Mirdha Sarai Dharamshala, Nagaur	10

APPENDIX III

Post Offices in Nagaur District as on 31-3-1970

NAGAUH TAHSIL

1. Nagaur
2. Alay
3. Bhadwasi
4. Bhagu
5. Bhakhrod
6. Bhadana
7. Chenar
8. Chhilo
9. Chuntisara
10. Chau
11. Gogelao
12. Gudha Bhagwandass
13. Jodhiyasi
14. Satheran
15. Tausar
16. Untwalia
17. Singar
18. Rohina
19. Takla
20. Deru
21. Basni
22. Kumari
23. Asawari
24. Bhadora
25. Sigani
26. Kuchera
27. Palri Jodha
28. Kheenwsar
29. Bhawanda
30. Birlonka
31. Bher
32. Bhundel
33. Karnu
34. Khurchi
35. Madpura
36. Panchla Sidha

37. Pachori
38. Berathal Kalan
39. Loharpura
40. Nagaur City
41. Marwar Mundwa
42. Ganwa Kalan
43. Gwalu
44. Jannana
45. Karlu
46. Khajwana
47. Mundiwar
48. Phirod
49. Roon
50. Sankhwas
51. Jhadisar

MERTA TAHSIL

1. Gotan
2. Harsolao
3. Talanpura
4. Merta Road
5. Chhapri Khurd
6. Jorara
7. Jogimagra
8. Oladan
9. Nokha
10. Merta City
11. Bhagar
12. Basni Seja
13. Bhanwal Mertiyan
14. Dangawas
15. Dhaneriya
16. Gagrana
17. Gawardi
18. Indawar
19. Jasnagar

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

20. Jaswantbad
21. Katiyasani
22. Lambajata
23. Liliyan
24. Lampolai
25. Morra
26. Mokala
27. Kurdayan
28. Poondlu
29. Rasliyawas
30. Merta Kacheri
31. Ren
32. Riyan
33. Barayli
34. Jhintiya
35. Padu Khurd
36. Padu Kalan
37. Rohisa
38. Medas
39. Beejathal

DEGANA TAHSIL

1. Degana
2. Bherunda
3. Bikharaniya Kalan
4. Chandarun
5. Chau
6. Degana village
7. Harsor
8. Jakhera
9. Kirad
10. Kitalsar
11. Modi Kalan
12. Palri Kalan
13. Pundlota
14. Sanju
15. Nimbi Kalan
16. Akeli
17. Nimbri Chandawatan
18. Bitati

19. Bachhwari
20. Bawrla
21. Idwa
22. Jalsu Railway Station
23. Rajod
24. Sirasana
25. Jalsu Nank
26. Mewra
27. Dodiya
28. Thanwala
29. Alniyawas
30. Ladpura

PARVATSAR TAHSIL

1. Borawad
2. Bidiyad
3. Dhandoli
4. Gedokalan
5. Jhankhli
6. Kalwa
7. Mamdoli
8. Morer
9. Ramsiya
10. Bhichawa
11. Sabalpur
12. Asarwa
13. Chandaliya
14. Ranigaon
15. Nawad
16. Bajoli
17. Bajwas
18. Jawla
19. Kurada
20. Peelwa
21. Rid
22. Makrana
23. Badoo
24. Barwali
25. Besroli
26. Bhadwa

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

27. Boodsu
28. Gangwa
29. Gunawati
30. Janjila
31. Joosri
32. Manana
33. Manglana
34. Gelasar
35. Parvatsar
36. Bagot
37. Bhakri Molas
38. Chitai
39. Khanpur
40. Khokhar
41. Kinsariya
42. Rabdiya
43. Rohandi
44. Neniya
45. Gachhipura
46. Altawa
47. Barnul
48. Gular
49. Harnawa
50. Intawa Bownia
51. Bhaiya Kalan
52. Khardiya
53. Senawasa
54. Banwal
55. Bassi
56. Mayapur
57. Peeh

NAWA TAHSIL

1. Kuchaman
2. Adaksar
3. Bhanwata
4. Chitawa
5. Hudel
6. Indokha
7. Jiliya

8. Lodas
9. Nalot
10. Narayanpura
11. Palara
12. Panchwa
13. Prempura
14. Rasal
15. Rooppura Torda
16. Shiv
17. Sabalpura
18. Kukanwali
19. Kuchaman Road
20. Bawli
21. Bhagwanpura
22. Ghosla
23. Dayalpura
24. Govindi
25. Jabdinagar
26. Khardiya
27. Kuchaman Road Railway Station
28. Lichana
29. Maroth
30. Mithri
31. Parlinwa
32. Panchota
33. Rajliya
34. Shyamgarh
35. Shambhoopura
36. Gudha Salt
37. Ghatwa
38. Jeejot
39. Todas
40. Khardiya
41. Deoli Kalan
42. Minda
43. Loonwa

DIDWANA TAHSIL

1. Chhoti Khatu
2. Gawardi

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

3. Tosina
4. Peedwa
5. Didwana
6. Ajwa
7. Bordwa
8. Chhapti Chhoti
9. Daulatpura
10. Dayalpura
11. Kharesh
12. Khichiya Basni
13. Sewa
14. Singhana
15. Ambapa
16. Nimbi Khurd
17. Khunkhuna
18. Marwar Balia
19. Kolia
20. Bichawa
21. Kairap
22. Mamroda
23. Palot
24. Ransisar
25. Sagoobari
26. Nimbod
27. Molasar
28. Berwa
29. Berichati
30. Bhadaliya
31. Dhankoli
32. Dikawa
33. Khakholi
34. Ladariya
35. Nawa
36. Sudarsan
37. Kayamsor
38. Dabra
39. Station Road, Didwana

JAYAL TAHSIL

1. Rohina

2. Phardod
3. Rol
4. Deedaya Kalan
5. Tarnau
6. Bari Khatu
7. Ubasi
8. Jayal
9. Chhajoli
10. Dugstau
11. Dugeli
12. Kathoti
13. Khinyala
14. Ratanga
15. Jochina
16. Manglod
17. Arwar
18. Borwa
19. Kasnau
20. Lunsara
21. Akora
22. Gudha Jodhan
23. Deh
24. Jhareli
25. Kameriya
26. Somra
27. Chanapra
28. Surpaliya

LADNUN TAHSIL

1. Firwari
2. Girdoda Mcetha
3. Mithri
4. Sanwrad
5. Chhapara
6. Jaswantgarh
7. Dabri
8. Kasumbi Alipur
9. Rodoo
10. Ledy
11. Balasamand

APPENDIX III (Concl'd.)

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------|
| 12. Silanwad | 19. Hudas |
| 13. Ladnun | 20. Malgaon |
| 14. Sunari | 21. Odit |
| 15. Ladnun Railway Station | 22. Ratau |
| 16. Nimbi Jodhan | 23. Siwan |
| 17. Baldu | 24. Guda Jodha |
| 18. Shingsari | |
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CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

The purpose of this chapter is to present the occupational pattern in some of the sectors of the economy of the district which have not been described elsewhere in this volume.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

According to the Census of 1961 there were 825 Government administrators and executive officials in the district as detailed below¹:

Particulars	Males	Females	Total	Percentage of total
Central Government officials	285	—	285	34.6
State Government officials	221	13	234	28.2
Local bodies officials	36	—	36	4.4
Village officials	266	2	268	32.6
Others	—	2	2	0.2
TOTAL	808	17	825	100.0

Thus, maximum percentage, 34.6, of administrators and executive officials were employed by the Central Government, village officials coming next with 32.6 per cent followed by the State Government, claiming 28.2 per cent of these personnel.

The Census of 1961 did not record the total number of government employees in various sectors of the economy e.g. education, medical and health, trade and commerce, transport, communications etc. and they were enumerated in their respective occupational categories. The total number of public servants in the district according to the Annual Employment Market Reports published by the District Employment Office, Nagaur during various years were as follows²:

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, p. 123.
2. Area Employment Market Reports of Nagaur District for the years 1965-66 to 1969-70.

(Number)

Particulars	Persons employed as on 31st March of				
	1966	1967	1968	1969	1970
Central Government	—	—	1,007	975	954
State Government	4,536	4,775	5,088	5,249	5,445
Quasi Government	104	118	123	125	170
Local Bodies	2,281	2,408	2,394	2,421	2,432
TOTAL	6,921	7,301	8,612	8,770	9,001

The above table reveals a gradual increase in the number of persons employed at various levels of the Government and Quasi-Government bodies; their number was 6,921 at the end of 1965-66 which rose to 9,001 by the close of 1969-70 recording an increase of 30.5 per cent.

The persons employed under the State Government in the district enjoy certain amenities and privileges in accordance with their conditions of service which are uniform all over the State. In addition to their basic pay, all Government servants are paid dearness allowance, the quantum of which varies according to the amount of pay of the official. Loans at reasonable rate of interest are given by the Government to the public servants for the construction and repair of their houses. All such loans are recoverable in easy instalments. The employees are also provided living accommodation in Government houses, wherever available. In case of illness the expenditure incurred by a public servant on his own treatment or that of his family members including dependant parents, is reimbursed by the Government. There is a provision of compulsory life insurance for the State employees through the State Insurance Department at premium rates lower than those fixed by the Life Insurance Corporation of India. The payment of State insurance premium proves more convenient to the employees as it is deducted from their salary every month.

Employees' Associations

There are a number of voluntary organisations, which have been formed by the employees to ameliorate their conditions; important of these are described below:

RAJASTHAN RAJYA KARAMCHARI SANGH—This association of ministerial employees has been recognised by the State Government. The district branch of the Rajasthan Rajya Karamchari Sangh at Nagaur was started in the year 1957 with an initial membership of 176 which increased

to 300 by 1970. A membership fee of Rs. 2 per annum is charged besides a nominal enrolment fee of 25 paise. The main objectives of the association include all-round development of the personality of its members through periodical cultural, academic and other meets and discussion of matters of common interest. Elections are held every year for the office of President, Vice President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Secretary for Financial Matters, Propaganda Secretary, Cultural Secretary and Legal Advisor of the Association. Besides, there is an executive committee consisting of 12 members.

RAJASTHAN SAHAYAK KARAMCHARI SANGH—The State unit of this Sangh was established on 30th November, 1951. It looks after the welfare of Class IV employees of the district. The main objectives of the Sangh are to improve the educational, economic, social and cultural standard of the members and to create a feeling of brotherhood among them. The district branch of the association was set up in July 1969, with a membership of 650. A membership fee of Rs. 3 per annum is charged in addition to an enrolment fee of Re. 1. The association has its tahsil branch offices at Merta, Degana, Nawa, Parvatsar, Ladnun, Didwana and Jayal. The total membership as on 31st March, 1970 was 900. Elections are held every year for the eight office bearers viz. the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary, Finance Secretary, Propaganda and Organisation Secretary, Cultural Secretary and Law Secretary. The executive committee consists of 15 members including the office bearers.

RAJASTHAN RAJYA LEKHA LIPIK SANGH—The district unit of this Sangh was established on 17th May, 1968. The membership is opened to all the non-gazetted personnel of accounts service like accountants, accounts clerks etc. There is no entry fee and only Rs. 2 per annum are charged as membership fee. There were 27 members of the district branch on 31st March, 1970 compared to the initial strength of 17.

RAJASTHAN PATWAR SANGH—The district unit of this Sangh was established on 21st September, 1957 with a membership of 215 which increased to 385 as on 31st March, 1970. The membership is open to the Patwaris of the district. The main objectives of the Sangh are to safeguard the interest of its members in the service and to create feelings of brotherhood among them. Periodical conferences and meetings are held to consider matters like improvement in the pay and allowances of the Patwaris and the maintenance of Patwar houses etc. The Sangh has its units at all the tahsil headquarters of the district and they are affiliated to the State unit. A small library-cum-reading room is maintained by the district

branch where certain periodicals and newspapers are made available. The annual membership fee is Rs. 2 only.

LEARNED PROFESSIONS

Teaching, medical and health, law and engineering are some of the important learned professions pursued in the district.

Teaching

The total number of teachers in various institutions of the district was 560 including 38 female teachers at the time of 1951 Census¹. This did not include the non-teaching staff employed in educational institutions. Due to expansion of education in the district, the number of educational institutions has been going up resulting in an increase in the number of teachers in the district. Details of persons engaged in educational profession according to the Census of 1961 in Nagaur district was as follows²:

(Number)			
Level	Urban	Rural	Total
University (College)	Total	117	—
	Males	117	—
	Females	—	—
Secondary Schools	Total	256	114
	Males	228	114
	Females	28	—
Middle and Primary Schools	Total	350	882
	Males	295	850
	Females	55	32
Other Schools	Total	243	116
	Males	208	108
	Females	35	8
TOTAL	966	1,112	2,078

The number of women teachers has also been going up. In the year 1951, the percentage of women of the total strength of teachers was 6.8 which went up to 8.1 in 1961. In that year the percentage of

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Nagaur, Part I*, p. 100.

2. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, p. 121.

teachers serving at various levels was University (College) 5.6, secondary 18.0, middle and primary 59.2 and other institutions 17.2. No female-teacher was serving in rural areas at college and secondary school levels.

The number of educational institutions in the district has been increasing fast since 1961. Consequently the number of persons engaged in teaching profession is also multiplying. The details are given in Chapter XV of this volume.

The area is not much advanced and educated women prefer to take employment in the sphere of teaching because the profession is regarded as a noble one and women find the atmosphere in educational institutions more congenial to their temperament.

Private educational institutions are few in the district and most of institutions are owned and managed by the Government. The working conditions in the private and the Government institutions are almost the same except that facilities like free medical treatment and compulsory state insurance are not available to teachers in private institutions.

Medical Profession

The number of persons pursuing medical profession has been increasing with growing medical facilities in the district. According to the 1951 Census, there were 14 doctors, 145 *vaidyas* (including 14 females), 27 midwives (all females) and 89 compounders (all males) working in Nagaur district. The 1961 Census recorded the number of persons engaged in medical profession as follows¹:

Particulars	Males	Females	Total
Physicians and Surgeons			
(Allopathic)	26	3	29
Physicians (Ayurvedic)	78	4	82
Physicians (Homeopathic)	3	—	3
Physicians (Others)	35	—	35
Dentists	3	—	3
Physicians, Surgeons and Dentists (not elsewhere classified)	4	—	4
Nurses	5	31	36
Midwives and Health Visitors	15	26	41
Nursing Attendants and related workers	17	87	104

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District, p. 120.*

1	2	3	4
Pharmacists and Pharmaceutical Technicians	108	—	108
Vaccinators	26	—	26
Sanitation Technicians	10	—	10
Medical and Health Technicians not elsewhere classified (excluding Laboratory Assistants)	87	—	87
TOTAL	417	151	568

A branch of Indian Medical Association was organised in the district in 1964. The membership of the Association was 34 as on 31st March, 1970 including one lady doctor. An enrolment and magazine fee of Rs. 20 per annum is charged from the members of the Association. Monthly meetings are held on the first Saturday of each month to discuss new developments in the fields of medicine and surgery, as well as matters relating to the service conditions of the medical profession. Elections are held annually for the offices of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, Assistant Secretary and Joint Secretary of the Association. Two members to represent the district branch in the State and the Central units are also elected.

Legal Profession

Under this occupation are included advocates, legal assistants, mukhtars, petition writers, judges and magistrates. According to the 1951 Census there were 80 persons engaged in this profession. They included lawyers of all kinds including *quazis*, law agents and mukhtars. The number of persons pursuing this occupation, at the time of the 1961 Census, was as follows¹ :

Particulars	Males	Females	Total
Judges and Magistrates	2	—	2
Legal Practitioners and Advisors	34	—	34
Jurists and Legal Technicians not elsewhere classified including petition writers	31	—	31
Total	67	—	67

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, p. 121.

There was no female engaged in this profession in the district. All the males except two were working in urban areas.

The number of lawyers in 1961 as compared to 1951 decreased slightly, presumably due to the setting up of Nyaya Panchayats under the scheme of Democratic Decentralisation, as they get many minor disputes settled at their level through arbitration and conciliation.

BAR ASSOCIATIONS—Five Bar Associations have been formed in the district at Nagaur, Merta City, Didwana, Parvatsar and Nawa.

The Bar Association, Nagaur, was established in the year 1913 with an initial membership of 5 which had reached the number of 30 by 31st March, 1970. An enrolment fee of Rs. 5 besides Rs. 3 per month as membership fee are charged from members of the association. Elections of office bearers are held annually, though traditionally the senior most member of the bar association is unanimously chosen as President and some junior members picked up as Vice-President and Secretary. The executive committee consists of five members including the President, Vice-President and the Secretary. All the office bearers are honorary and the only paid employee is a peon kept for sundry services to the members of the association and their clients. The association maintains a library which had about 200 books as on 31st March, 1970 for the use of the members.

The Bar Association, Merta City was established in the year 1936 by a Hindi knowing solitary lawyer of the town. By 31st March, 1970 the membership of bar association had risen to 27 and the registered *munshis*, numbered 18. The seat of the court of the District and Sessions Judge being at Merta, the case work has increased manifold resulting in an increase in the number of legal practitioners and thereby in the membership of the Bar Association. The association elects one President and one Secretary every year in July and they organise and look after the working of the association. The elections for the President and the Secretary have been held by secret ballot since 1966. The enrolment fee is rupee one and membership fee Rs. 3 per month. The Bar Association functions in a government building. There are about 250 law books in the library of the Bar Association. The association runs a water booth (*pyau*) for its members and their clients.

Didwana Bar Association was started in the year 1920 with an initial membership of four which went up to 11 by 31st March, 1970. The association owns a fairly big hall with a litigant shed and a *pyau* just

near the office of the Munsif Magistrate. This building, known as Jan Sahyog Bhawan was constructed in the year 1969 with the help of contributions of the public and the members of the Bar Association. The total cost of the building came to about Rs. 50,000. Membership fee of Rs. 10 per month is charged from the members who are also asked to contribute as and when more funds are required. There is a Bar Association library having about 250 reference books on law. Law journals such as All India Reporter, Rajasthan Revenue Decisions, Kanooni Service, Law Weekly Notes etc. are also subscribed by the Bar Association library. Elections are held every year but traditionally the President and the Secretary are elected unanimously.

The Bar Association, Parvatsar was established in the year 1950. There were 8 members at the time of its formation, their number being 11 as on 31st March, 1970. No enrolment fee or membership fee is charged from the members. There are about 200 law books in the library of the Bar Association. The President and the Secretary are conventionally elected unanimously.

Nawa Bar Association had 7 members as on 31st March, 1970.

Engineering

Engineering services occupy an important place in the economic development of a district. In view of the relatively backward economy of Nagaur district, the number of persons pursuing the engineering profession is not large. Apart from the engineers, overseers and surveyors employed by the Central and State Government Departments, Rajasthan State Electricity Board, local bodies like the municipal boards also employ engineering personnel. At the time of 1951 Census¹ there was only one engineer in whole of the district. The 1961 Census recorded 500 persons including 6 females under the category of Architects, Engineers and Surveyors as detailed below²:

Particulars	(Number)		
	Males	Females	Total
Architects	1	—	1
Civil Engineers (including Overseers)	39	—	39

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook Nagaur, Part I, p. 101.*
2. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan District Census Handbook, Nagaur District, p. 119.*

1	2	3	4
Mechanical Engineers	144	—	144
Electrical Engineers	67	—	67
Mining Engineers	123	—	123
Surveyors	120	6	126
TOTAL	494	6	500

Out of 500 persons categorised as Architects, Engineers and Surveyors, 371 persons were working in the urban areas and only 129 in the rural areas. All the six females surveyors were working in the rural areas. No association of engineers is functioning in the district.

Men of Arts and Letters

A variety of persons are included under this broad category, e.g. musicians, singers, dancers, actors, writers and related workers.

The following table gives the number of persons pursuing different avocations under this category as their principal means of livelihood at the time of 1961 Census¹:

Particulars	Males	Females	Total
Authors	38	—	38
Editors, Journalists and related workers	—	2	2
Painters, Decorators and commercial artists	4	—	4
Sculptors and Modellers	10	—	10
Musicians and related workers	99	27	126
Dancers and related workers	3	4	7
Artists, writers and related workers not elsewhere classified	43	—	43
TOTAL	197	33	230

The above table reveals that females constituted 14.3 per cent of the total number of persons under this category. Out of 33 females, 14 were working in urban areas and the remaining 19 in rural areas. The number of males in rural and urban areas was 31 and 166 respectively.

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, p. 121.

Thus total number of men of arts and letters in urban areas was 180 and in rural areas only 50.

DOMESTIC AND PERSONAL SERVICES

Domestic Servants

Domestic servants are usually unskilled workers and their emoluments are comparatively low as compared to other occupations. In many cases one worker serves in more than one homes, each claiming only a part of his working hours. Domestic servants are paid both in cash and kind. They have not yet organised themselves into an association. According to the 1951 Census, the number of persons engaged in domestic services (but not including services rendered by members of family households to one another) was 1686¹ (1,218 males and 468 females). Of these 126 (84 males and 42 females) were cooks and 1,560 (1,134 males and 426 females) were engaged in other domestic chores. The number of persons rendering these type of services, both domestic and institutional, according to the 1961 Census was 1,224, details of which are given in the following table²:

Particulars	Males	Females	Total
House keepers, matrons, stewards (Domestic and Institutional)	233	13	246
Ayas, Nurses and Maids	—	1	1
Cooks, Cook-bearers (Domestic and Institutional)	334	166	500
Butlers, Bearers, Waiters, Maids and other servants (Domestic)	247	110	357
House Keepers, Cooks, Maids and related workers not elsewhere classified	49	29	78
Waiters, Bartenders and related workers	15	27	42
TOTAL	878	346	1224

Barbers

Barbers, in traditional Hindu society, belonged to a particular caste

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Nagaur, Part I*, p. 101.
2. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, pp. 142-143.

known as *Nai*. The customary barber was required to be present at many religious ceremonies, rituals and such other occasions. Till recently most of the households had family barbers but the custom has declined particularly in urban areas. Barbers started their shops and saloons and do not generally attend to their clients at their homes. In villages, barbers who run their shops work on their own, but in towns they are generally assisted by employees, who are paid either monthly wages or an agreed portion of the amount charged for every service rendered by them. The usual charges (1969) in urban areas of the district for an ordinary hair cut for an adult were found to be 75 paise, and that for a shave 25 paise. The charges for hair cut of a child were 50 paise. In rural areas the charges were low as compared to urban areas, 60 paise for hair cut and 20 paise for a shave. In some towns of the district, fashionable hair dressing saloons have sprung up. The barbers organised their union in Nagaur in the year 1968 and they hold meetings as and when there is any issue concerning their welfare. According to a decision, all its members charge uniform rates. The 1951 Census¹ recorded the number of barbers as 1,154 of which 992 were males and 162 females. The number of barbers, hair dressers, beauticians and related workers recorded in the 1961 Census² was 563 of which 535 were males and 28 females. 243 barbers (235 males and 8 females) were working in the urban areas and 320 (300 males and 20 females) in the rural areas. The latter constituted 55.6 per cent of their total number.

Washermen

Washermen are found all over the district and are known as *Dhobi*. Like barbers they are generally paid in kind in the rural areas. The number of hereditary washermen is gradually declining particularly in urban areas. A few of them have set up their own shops particularly in urban and semi-urban areas. A number of persons other than hereditary washermen have also set up laundries and they employ washermen who are paid either monthly or piece wages on the basis of clothes they wash and press. In rural areas, however, laundries are very few. Normal charges at Nagaur during 1969 were 15 paise for a cotton cloth for washing and pressing and 10 paise for pressing only, Re. 1 for drycleaning a terycotton pant, Rs. 1.25 for a woollen pant and Rs. 2 for a woollen coat. As per 1951³ Census the

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1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Nagaur, Part I*, p. 101.
 2. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, p.143.
 3. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Nagaur, Part I*, p. 101.

number of washermen was 117 of which 85 were males and 32 females. By the time of the Census of 1961, the number of laundrymen, washermen and *dhobis* had increased to 352 of whom 296 were males and 56 females. 318 (276 males and 42 females) of them were working in the urban areas, and only 34 (20 males and 14 females) in rural areas. Majority of the washermen (90.4 per cent) were thus working in urban areas, as they are more in demand there than in villages.

Tailors

Tailors usually belong to *Darji* community. In rural areas, one tailor generally serves many villages as he cannot gainfully ply his trade depending on clients of one village. A tailor working in bigger villages, is usually found serving the clients in the neighbouring villages. In towns also many a tailoring shop can be seen serving equally the denizens of the town and the neighbouring villages. In rural areas most of the tailors have only one sewing machine and work themselves, but in towns many tailors keep more than one sewing machine and engage persons either on monthly wages or on piece rate basis. In rural areas most of the tailors confine their trade only to tailoring while in urban areas some of them have also started selling cloth and ready-made garments. In urban areas tailoring has become quite a paying profession and many persons, other than the traditional tailors, have taken to this profession.

There were 1,239 persons (981 males and 258 females) working as tailors in the year 1951². According to the Census of 1961³, a total of 1,680 persons (1,336 males and 344 females) were engaged as tailors, cutters, furriers and related workers. Of these 776 persons (625 males and 151 females) worked in urban areas and 904 (711 males and 193 females) in rural areas. Women employed in this profession formed 20.4 per cent of the total. Most of the ladies, engaged in this profession belong to poor families, who are either unsupported (widows etc.) or the earnings of their heads of the families are not sufficient to make both ends meet. Such ladies work on their own sewing machines, mostly stitching clothes of their neighbours at their own houses. A number of tailors are also employed by manufacturers of ready-made garments. The tailoring charges at

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1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur, District*, p. 143.
 2. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Nagaur, Part I*, p. 94.
 3. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, p. 135.

Nagaur during 1969 for cotton shirt, bush shirt and trousers were found to be Rs. 5, Rs. 1.50 and Rs. 2 respectively. The charges for silken and terycotton garments were almost double that for cotton garments. The tailoring of a cotton suit cost between Rs. 12 to Rs. 15 and of a woollen suit between Rs. 30 to Rs. 40.

Leather Workers

Leather workers, popularly known as *mochis*, are mostly engaged in shoe making and other type of leather work as well as in reconditioning of old wornout or defective foot-wear to make them serviceable. Many of them have small establishments, and work as self-employed persons while others who are better placed employ other *mochis* also and pay them either on time basis or piece-meal basis. Besides the traditional *mochis*, many other persons have taken to this profession. There were 2,771 persons (2,474 males and 297 females) in 1951¹ who were earning their livelihood as leather shoe makers. In the year² 1961, the number of leather cutters, lasters, sewers (except gloves and garments), shoe makers and shoe repairers and related workers was 3,585, of which 2,669 were males and 916 females. A majority of these persons (80.3 per cent) were working in rural areas.

Weavers and Spinners

According to the 1961 Census³, there were 623 persons (399 males and 224 females) who were working as spinners, weavers, knitters, dyers and related workers. Like shoe makers the majority of weavers were found in rural areas where they comprised 89.2 per cent of the total workers engaged in this profession. Only 10.8 per cent were working in urban areas. The women constituted 35.9 per cent of total number of workers in this category.

Other Occupations

Besides the above mentioned occupations there are a large number of persons who are pursuing other non-agricultural occupations in the district. The details of such persons at the time of the Census of 1961 are given in Appendix I.

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1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Nagaur, Part I*, p. 94.
 2. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, p. 135.
 3. *ibid.*, p. 134.

APPENDIX I

Occupational Classification by sex of persons at work other than cultivation in Nagaur District, Census of 1961

S.No.	Work Category	(Number)							
		Total				Urban			
		Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Males	Females	Persons	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Physicists, Chemists, Geologists and other Physical scientists	12	12	—	10	10	—	—	—
2.	Biologists, veterinarians, agronomists and related scientists	42	42	—	11	11	—	—	—
3.	Social scientists and related workers	41	37	4	17	17	—	—	—
4.	Draughtsmen and science and engineering technicians, unclassified	15	15	—	14	14	—	—	—
5.	Other professional, technical and related workers	616	590	26	338	330	8	—	—
6.	Directors, managers-wholesale and retail trade	68	67	1	—	—	—	—	—
7.	Directors, managers and working proprietors-financial institutions	14	14	—	12	12	—	—	—
8.	Directors, managers and working proprietors-Others	786	785	1	696	695	1	—	—
9.	Book-keepers and cashiers	757	757	—	695	695	—	—	—
10.	Stenographers and typists	4	4	—	2	2	—	—	—
11.	Office machine operators	1	1	—	1	1	—	—	—
12.	Clerical workers, miscellaneous	1,007	916	91	754	663	91	—	—
13.	Unskilled office workers	904	882	22	464	448	16	—	—
14.	Working proprietors, wholesale and retail trade	6,285	6,113	172	3,623	3,486	137	—	—
15.	Insurance and real estate salesmen, salesmen of securities and services, and auctioneers	81	81	—	55	55	—	—	—
16.	Commercial travellers and manufacturers' agents	36	36	—	33	33	—	—	—

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
17.	Salesmen, shop assistants and related workers	2,698	2,534	114	414	392	22
18.	Money-lenders and pawn-brokers	358	337	21	152	138	41
19.	Farmers and farm managers	221	206	15	—	—	—
20.	Farm workers	10,628	6,650	3,978	662	493	169
21.	Hunters and related workers	10	—	10	10	—	10
22.	Fishermen and related workers	31	31	—	—	—	—
23.	Loggers and other forestry workers	227	142	85	11	11	—
24.	Miners and quarrymen	810	672	138	191	167	24
25.	Well drillers and related workers	108	11	97	1	1	—
26.	Miners, quarrymen and related workers, unclassified	234	160	93	14	13	1
27.	Deck officers and engine-room relating (Ship) barge crews and boatmen	12	1	11	1	1	—
28.	Deck Officers, engineer officers and pilots, Ship	1	1	—	1	1	—
29.	Conductors, guards and brakemen (Railway)	38	37	1	34	33	1
30.	Inspectors, supervisors, traffic controllers and despatchers, transport	349	349	—	92	92	—
31.	Telephone, telegraph and related tele-communication operators	16	16	—	9	9	—
32.	Postmen and messengers	187	187	—	78	78	—
33.	Workers in transport and communication operations, unclassified	466	465	1	182	181	1
34.	Spinners, weavers, knitters, dyers and related workers	2,343	1,284	1,059	954	599	355
35.	Furnacemen, rollers, drawers, moulders and related metal making and treating workers	672	617	55	340	326	14
36.	Precision instrument makers, watch makers, jewellers and related workers	1,265	1,213	52	550	516	34

APPENDIX I (Concl'd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
37.	Tool-makers, machinists, plumbers, welders, platers and related workers	841	673	168	466	460	6
38.	Electricians and related electrical and electronic workers	168	168	—	164	164	—
39.	Carpenters, joiners, cabinet makers, coopers and related workers	843	808	35	312	311	1
40.	Painters and paper hangers	65	65	—	21	21	—
41.	Bricklayers, plasterers and construction workers, unclassified	4,448	4,333	115	3,275	3,214	61
42.	Compositors, printers, engravers, book-binders, and related workers	96	88	8	11	7	4
43.	Potters, kilnmen, glass and clay formers and related workers	1,617	919	752	394	230	164
44.	Millers, bakers, brewmasters and related food and beverage workers	970	737	233	325	301	24
45.	Chemical and related process workers	105	47	58	13	12	1
46.	Tobacco preparers and product makers	301	202	99	269	181	88
47.	Craftsmen and production process workers, unclassified	627	492	135	495	418	77
48.	Testers, packers, sorters and related workers	168	165	3	168	165	3
49.	Stationary engine and excavating and lifting equipment operators and related workers	221	214	7	214	214	—
50.	Labourers not elsewhere classified	4,491	4,083	408	3,785	3,445	340
51.	Fire fighters, policemen, guards and related workers	1,566	1,565	1	584	583	1
52.	Building care-takers, cleaners and related workers	2,270	1,601	669	836	533	303
53.	Photographers and related camera operators	6	6	—	5	5	—
54.	Service, sports and recreation workers, unclassified	719	626	93	42	10	32
55.	Workers reporting occupations unidentifiable or unclassifiable	1,048	1,004	44	764	724	40
56.	Workers not reporting occupation	1,071	8' 6	175	24	24	—

Source : *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, pp. 120-144.

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

The Census of 1961 classified the total population of 9,34,948 in the district of Nagaur into two categories of workers and non-workers. In the category of workers were included 4,57,650 persons (2,78,728 males and 1,78,922 females) comprising 48.95 per cent of the total population, the rest of the 4,77,298 persons (2,01,858 males and 2,75,440 females) constituting 51.05 per cent of the total being non-workers. Of the total workers 4,22,877 (2,48,957 males and 1,73,920 females) were living in rural areas while 34,773 (29,771 males and 5,002 females) lived in urban areas. In rural areas the non-workers thus numbered 3,91,414 (1,68,806 males and 2,22,608 females) and in urban areas 85,884 (33,052 males and 52,832 females). The percentages of working population living in rural and urban areas were 92.4 and 7.6 respectively. The respective percentages of non-working population in the two areas were 82.0 and 18.0 respectively. The working population consisted more of males than of females both in rural and urban areas, but so far as the non-working population is concerned, the females outnumbered the males both in rural and in urban areas of the district.

Workers were further classified into nine broad categories detailed as below¹ :

Particulars	(Number)		
	Males	Females	Total
A. WORKERS	2,78,728	1,78,922	4,57,650
Rural	2,48,957	1,73,920	4,22,877
Urban	29,771	5,002	34,773
Cultivators	2,16,774	1,60,716	3,77,490
Rural	2,12,990	1,58,719	3,71,709
Urban	3,784	1,997	5,781

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, pp. 96-97.

1	2	3	4
Agricultural Labourers	7,312	7,096	14,408
Rural	6,699	6,713	13,412
Urban	613	383	996
In mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantations, orchards and allied activities	3,506	1,538	5,044
Rural	2,811	1,368	4,179
Urban	695	170	865
At household industry	13,031	6,065	19,096
Rural	9,879	5,315	15,194
Urban	3,152	750	3,902
In manufacturing other than household industry	5,203	446	5,649
Rural	1,060	127	1,187
Urban	4,143	319	4,462
In construction	3,423	166	3,589
Rural	973	90	1,063
Urban	2,450	76	2,526
In trade and commerce	10,198	364	10,562
Rural	5,256	192	5,448
Urban	4,942	172	5,114
In transport, storage and communications	3,557	24	3,581
Rural	1,592	11	1,603
Urban	1,965	13	1,978
Other services	15,724	2,507	18,231
Rural	7,697	1,385	9,082
Urban	8,027	1,122	9,149
B. NON-WORKERS	2,01,858	2,75,440	4,77,298
Rural	1,68,806	2,22,608	3,91,414
Urban	33,052	52,832	85,884
Total population	4,80,586	4,54,362	9,34,948

The above table indicates that in 1961 the cultivators and agricultural labourers constituted as much as 82.49 and 3.16 per cent of the

total working population respectively. Though both these categories taken together formed only 41.93 per cent of the total population of the district, yet including their dependents, one can safely say that over-whelming population of the district was dependent directly or indirectly on agriculture. The number of male cultivators was about one-third that of the female cultivators. Amongst agricultural labourers the male and female stood almost at par.

The next important source of livelihood in the district was household industry engaging 2.04 per cent of the total population and 4.17 per cent of the working population. The number of males in this category of workers was nearly twice as much as that of females in rural areas but in urban areas the males out-numbered the females by more than four times.

Persons engaged in other services, the next most numerous category of workers, constituted 1.95 per cent of the total population and 3.98 per cent of working population. The ratio of males and females here stood at 6:1.

Trade and commerce supported 1.13 per cent of the total population and 2.31 per cent of the working population. The number of females in this occupation was insignificant in comparison to males.

Manufacturing other than household industry, provided livelihood to 0.60 per cent of the total population and 1.23 per cent of the working population. Mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantations, orchards and allied activities claimed 0.54 per cent of the total population and 1.10 per cent of the working population. The percentage of persons getting their livelihood from transport, storage and communications and construction was 0.37 to the total population in each case while it was 0.78 of the working population also in both cases.

The working women existed in all occupational category. The following table shows the number of females per 1000 males in various work categories :

Particulars	Female workers per 1000 male workers		
	Rural	Urban	Total
A. WOMEN WORKERS	699	168	642
Cultivators	745	528	741
Agricultural labourers	1,002	625	970
In mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting and plantations, orchards and allied activities	487	245	439

1	2	3	4
At household industries	538	238	465
In manufacturing other than household industry	120	77	86
In construction	93	31	48
In trade and commerce	36	35	36
In transport, storage and communications	7	7	7
In other services	180	140	159
B. WOMEN NON-WORKERS	1,318	1,598	1,364

Occupational pattern of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes

Nagaur district ranks seventh amongst the districts of the State with regard to the population of the Scheduled Castes but comes very low so far as the population of the Scheduled Tribes is concerned. The occupational pattern of the members of these communities is shown in the following table¹ :

Particulars	Scheduled Castes (No.)	Percentage of total population	Scheduled Tribes (No.)	Percentage of total population
WORKERS	90,204	55.28	1,582	54.95
Cultivators	71,452	43.79	1,411	49.01
Agricultural labourers	6,527	4.00	63	2.19
In mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities	1,267	0.78	11	0.38
At household industry	5,343	3.28	49	1.71
In manufacturing other than household industry	644	0.39	1	0.03
In construction	462	0.28	1	0.03
In Trade and Commerce	513	0.31	—	—

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, pp. 203-204.

	1	2	3	4	5
In transport, storage and communications		381	0.23	6	0.21
In other services		3,615	2.22	40	1.39
NON-WORKERS		72,965	44.72	1,297	45.05
TOTAL		1,63,169	100.00	2,879	100.00

Thus, 55.28 per cent of the Scheduled Caste population constituted of workers of which 43.79 per cent were working as cultivators, 4.00 per cent as agricultural labourers, 3.28 per cent at household industry, 2.22 per cent in other services, 0.78 per cent were engaged in mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied spheres, 0.39 per cent in manufacturing other than household industry while 0.31 per cent, 0.28 per cent and 0.23 per cent respectively were engaged in trade and commerce, construction and transport, storage and communications. The rest of the 44.72 per cent of the population among these castes was economically inactive.

Amongst the 54.95 per cent of workers of Scheduled Tribes, 49.01 per cent were cultivators, 2.19 per cent formed agricultural labouring class, 1.71 per cent were engaged in household industry and 1.39 per cent in other services. The number of persons engaged in mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities, manufacturing other than household industries, construction and transport, storage and communications was negligible. None from among these tribes was engaged in trade and commerce. The rest of 45.05 per cent of the Scheduled Tribe population belonged to the category of non-workers.

Workers by Age-groups¹

According to the 1961 Census, the district had 12.64 per cent of workers in the age-group of 0-14, 50.20 per cent in the age-group of 15-34, 31.67 per cent in the age-group of 35-59, and 5.48 per cent in the age-group of 60 years and above. 0.01 per cent of workers were in the unclassified category of workers who did not state their ages.

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, pp. 96-97.

Educational Level of Workers

As regards the educational level of workers in urban areas¹, literate and illiterates exist side by side in all the industrial categories. Literate women workers were conspicuously absent in the field of construction. In other occupations too the number of literate women workers was very small. Male workers with primary or junior basic education were found in all occupations, while those with matriculation or higher secondary qualification did not exist in the category of agricultural labour only. Male workers, having a technical diploma not equal to a degree, were found only in other services, while those having non-technical diploma not equal to degree were available in such categories as cultivation, manufacturing other than household industry, trade and commerce and other services. Male workers possessing University degrees or post-graduate degrees other than in technical subjects and technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree were found in the categories of cultivation, agricultural labour and in mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantations, orchards and allied activities.

In rural areas every occupation had few literate male workers but literate female workers did not take to construction and transport, storage and communications. Female workers, educated upto primary or junior basic standard were available in cultivation, household industry and in other services while one female worker each educated upto matriculation and above was available in the fields of cultivation and other services. The educational level of workers in rural areas is shown in the following table² :

Educational Level	(Number)		
	Males	Females	Total
Illiterate	2,04,260	1,72,143	8,76,403
Literate (without educational level)	41,366	1,731	43,097
Primary or junior basic	1,584	33	1,617
Matriculation and above	1,747	13	1,760
TOTAL	2,48,957	1,73,920	4,22,877

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District*, pp. 101-102.

2. *ibid.*, pp. 102-103.

The above table reveals that 89.01 per cent of rural workers were illiterate, 10.19 per cent literate (without educational level), 0.38 per cent matriculates or with higher qualifications. In case of female workers 98.98 per cent were illiterates and 0.99 per cent literate (without educational level), 0.02 per cent studied upto primary or junior basic, and only 0.01 per cent were with educational level of matriculation or above. The percentage of illiterates among male workers was less as compared to those among females, the illiterate male workers being 82.05 per cent of the total male working population as against the respective percentage of 98.98 in the case of females. Among the literate male workers those with bare literacy without educational level formed 16.61 per cent, those with primary or junior basic education were 0.64 and those with matriculation and higher qualifications constituted 0.70 per cent.

PRICES

No records of price of commodities prevailing in the past for the area now forming Nagaur district is available. Nagaur was a *pargana* of the erstwhile Marwar State of which Jodhpur was the capital. The prices prevailing at Jodhpur which can be taken as a fair indicator of the price levels in other parts of the State, including Nagaur during the years 1873 to 1946 as published in the official publications entitled *Prices and Wages in India* and *Reports on the Administration of Jodhpur State* are given at Appendices I and II at the end of the chapter. The price collecting agency in the state was an official of the Revenue Department and the data collected related to retail prices.

In the year 1911 prices were showing a downward trend but the strains of impending First World War reversed this trend and prices started rising, a trend which continued intermittently till 1930, when a decline again set in due to severe economic depression prevailing all over the world. The downward trend continued for the next few years, till about 1937 and then prices again showed an upward trend due to the approaching Second World War. The prices, however, stabilised to some extent and fluctuations were less marked for a short period during the years 1943 and 1944. The following years 1945 and 1946 again witnessed an inflationary spiral perhaps due to the after effects of War on the country's economy, which had resulted into the disruption of normal trade and distribution channels and production process, both in the agricultural and the industrial sectors. To make things worse, there was a sudden rise in demand for agricultural products which spurred the prices abnormally. The partition of the country and the resultant exchange of population

further set in inflationary tendencies in the case of the entire range of commodities throughout the country.

After the formation of Rajasthan, the district of Nagaur came into existence. Retail prices of certain important foodgrains prevailing in each district started being collected by the Board of Revenue, Rajasthan. The following table presents annual average retail prices of foodgrains in Nagaur district for the period 1952 to 1961¹:

(Rupees per quintal)

Year	Wheat	Barley	Gram	Jowar	Bajra	Maize
1952	58.48	40.75	45.20	42.73	46.46	38.85
1953	50.52	31.32	39.28	30.19	34.99	40.19
19 4	36.18	24.73	33.49	19.95	24.43	21.43
1955	36.13	23.49	25.80	18.88	23.06	24.67
1956	43.92	31.64	30.09	31.48	35.05	32.47
1957	46.89	36.65	31.48	32.61	42.09	33.70
1958	51.74	42.36	40.56	38.71	40.72	38.61
1959	59.43	51.84	48.65	41.98	42.77	40.86
1960	52.94	52.51	43.22	40.97	42.28	36.84
1961	46.89	36.65	31.48	32.61	42.09	33.70

The upward push in prices continued till 1952 due to heavy expenditure incurred on developmental plans and deficit financing. The concerted development efforts coupled with generally favourable natural conditions for agriculture resulted in an easy food situation and prices started falling in 1953; the declining trend continued till 1955. But there was soon a reversal in this trend which has continued ever since except during short periods of good crops as in 1961.

Farm (harvest) prices² of important crops in Nagaur district during the years 1961-62 to 1969-70 are given in the following table³:

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, yearly volumes 1958 onward. Prices from 1952 to 1956 were presented as rupees per maund and have been converted into rupees per quintal.
2. The Farm (Harvest) price is the wholesale price at which the commodity is sold by the producer to the trader at village site during the harvesting period.
3. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.

(Rupees per quintal)

Commodity	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
Rice	-	-	101.80	126.40	146.00	267.50	-	-	-
Jowar	35.31	31.48	31.48	50.90	61.60	68.44	50.00	70.00	85.00
Bajra	36.49	33.81	33.81	56.26	68.53	71.11	55.00	87.50	90.00
Maize	33.30	34.83	34.83	47.42	58.88	65.62	53.00	68.00	70.00
Wheat	50.24	47.72	47.71	77.94	74.05	108.50	95.00	93.00	98.00
Barley	37.27	36.49	36.49	68.80	72.20	76.58	50.00	60.00	78.00
Gram	39.97	36.44	36.43	67.00	69.58	86.67	80.00	N.R.	100.00
Raw Sugar									
(Gur)	50.45	80.38	80.37	102.93	106.87	245.12	140.00	160.00	105.00
Chillies	291.50	294.72	296.69	252.73	486.85	394.00	200.00	300.00	230.00
Potatoes	48.23	38.85	38.85	69.39	70.89	72.22	40.00	35.00	79.00
Sesamum	103.31	86.41	86.40	139.64	161.53	203.00	150.00	200.00	260.00
Groundnut	62.51	60.28	60.28	82.39	164.94	142.88	107.00	105.00	125.00
Rape and									
Mustard	101.81	55.19	107.16	126.59	143.11	160.00	166.00	126.25	200.00
Cotton	178.60	153.52	187.53	194.24	219.35	272.50	275.00	254.79	280.00
Tobacco	191.57	133.56	214.32	267.92	277.53	204.78	209.00	260.66	300.00

The above table indicates that quantitatively no uniform tendency was discernible in prices; they showed fluctuations within a narrow range during the years 1961-62 to 1963-64 with a general upward trend in most cases after 1964-65.

WAGES

Wages depend generally on demand and supply of labour. They also tend to follow prices though lagging behind them invariably. Wages, therefore, have been increasing with the inflationary rise in prices.

K.D. Erskine recorded¹ in 1909 that the wages had increased considerably during the previous twenty years, especially those of blacksmiths, dyers, goldsmiths and ordinary day labourers. The average daily earning of a carpenter and weaver ranged from four to eight annas, that of a mason, stone dresser and tailor, four to six annas, the painter from four to five annas, the dyers from three to ten annas and of a goldsmith from six to twelve annas. An unskilled labourer including an attendant, a driver

1. Erskine, K.D., *Rajputana Gazetteers*, Vol. III A, 1909, p. 111.

could be hired for six annas a day at Merta. The daily wages of an ordinary coolie varied from two to four annas.

The wages for agricultural labour were mostly paid in kind and were frequently supplemented with gifts of clothes and other small perquisites. The village artisans and servants such as blacksmiths, carpenters, potters, workers in leather, barbers and washermen were usually remunerated in kind at the time of harvest, according to the workload of the labourer and the number of pair of bullocks the employer had. The labourers, besides the usual wages, used to get assistance, both in kind and cash at the time of marriages performed in their families and special gifts on social and religious occasions.

In rural areas there were two types of labourers i.e. agricultural and domestic; the latter used to be hereditary. The domestic servants were mostly kept by the well-to-do families and in most of the cases they were treated like the members of the family, the old servants commanding the same respect as was due from the younger to the elder members. They in turn served their masters sincerely and loyally and the need for outside hired labour was scarcely felt.

Most of the work in the fields was done by the cultivator himself with the assistance of his wife and other members of his family including children. Some cultivators took the help of their neighbours or friends in agricultural operations, in lieu of which they also worked for them when their assistance was needed. Only a few persons depended exclusively on hired labour and the wages of such labour were the subject matter of mutual agreement and bargaining.

With the mounting tempo of developmental activity public utility works have been started in the district and consequently, the employment of labourers has increased. In recent years, there is a gradual switch to making the payment to labourers in cash.

After Independence, the Government of India took up the issue of fixing minimum wages payable to various categories of workers. The Minimum Wages Act was passed by the Parliament in 1948 providing for statutory minimum rates of wages to be fixed by the appropriate Governments, Central or State, for various categories of work. The Act has been made applicable to the whole of Rajasthan in respect of certain Scheduled employments. Wages are revised every five years or earlier on the basis of advice of a committee specially constituted for the purpose.

The minimum wages fixed for various Scheduled employments in Rajasthan during 1969-70 have been given in Appendix III.

STANDARD OF LIVING

As mentioned earlier, the majority of the population of the district is dependent on agriculture, and consequently, prosperity of the people in the absence of any means of artificial irrigation sources depends mostly on rainfall which is normally meagre as well as uncertain. The district, therefore, suffers from the effects of a backward economy. Droughts and famines visit the district with distressing frequency and render parts of it depopulated as many people along with their cattle migrate to the neighbouring areas in search of food and fodder returning to their villages after two or three months, hoping that the rain-god will smile again on their thirsty lands.

K.D. Erskine made certain observations about the conditions and the standard of living of the people of Marwar State (of which Nagaur was a part) in the beginning of the twentieth century. According to him the material condition of the urban people was on the whole satisfactory and the standard of living was higher than it was fifty years ago. It will be interesting to quote his own words about the living conditions then existent : "The clerk has certainly improved in every way. In place of the scanty, coarse and clumsy clothes which characterised his predecessor even in his own earlier years, he has adopted a style of dress which is both costly and superior. The fine Manchester-made cloth has superseded the local *reza* and the *dhoti* has made way for a pair of trousers; his children and female belongings are better dressed, and on occasions of marriages and festivals there is often quite a display of glittering finery in clothes and ornaments. An improvement in the design, construction and furniture of his habitation is also noticeable. The *kachcha* or humble thatched dwelling has been replaced by a *pakka* house, the floors and walls of which are plastered instead of being occasionally coated with cow-dung; the rooms are larger, loftier and better ventilated, and latrines, formerly conspicuous by their absence now form part of every building. The bare floors are often covered with cheap carpets or rugs and the furniture includes a few stools, chairs, a table and some bedsteads. Metal cooking utensils have taken the place of earthen pots, and the food is generally of a better class—rice and wheat instead of *bajra* and *moth*. The smoking of foreign cigarettes and the chewing of betel leaves, formerly regarded as veritable luxuries, is common, and there is hardly a clerk who has not got his *chakar* or servant, while some also keep a female domestic (*deori*)".

About casual labourers and cultivators he goes on to add, "The landless day-labourer, in his protean forms as a porter at the railway station, as a mill-hand, as a household servant, as a water carrier, etc. has also made great strides. He has discarded the rude surroundings of his village and has plunged headlong into a city life, where his services are in considerable demand and he earns much higher wages than he used to. Lastly, there is the cultivator, a stationary being from whom the spirit of the times and genius of modern cultivation evoke no sympathetic response. He has shown no preference for new implements of agriculture, but plods along as best as he can with his antiquated tools. He is generally in debt, and his style of living, as regards dress, food, house and furniture, is much the same as it was twenty years ago¹."

Since Independence and taking up of the development programmes, the common man in the country has been having an access to better material conditions. The impetus given by the Government for greater agricultural production, the provision of necessary inputs for the purpose, and social services like education, roads and transport, as well as the land reform measures providing security and stability to the cultivator and ending his exploitation and above all, the rising trend in the prices, of farm products, have all resulted in improving the standard of living of the rural population. Signs of urbanisation are distinctly visible and the spread of educational, recreational and medical facilities have made the people conscious about the better and richer side of life. Many semi-sophisticated goods like transistor-radios, petromax lanterns, stoves, cookers, watches, fountain pens, cosmetics, ready-made garments, tractors, jeeps, water pumps etc. have made their way into the rural areas. With the expansion of transport facilities, traders are able to sell their goods in remote village shops, *hats* and fairs. Village shop-keepers also offer a larger variety of goods than they were doing previously. The shops selling biscuits, sweets, cigarettes, *pan* etc. which make to go the diet varied and richer have now appeared in every big village.

With the availability of co-operative credit at reasonable rates of interest to villagers, the influence of the village money lender and his ability to exploit is tending to decline. Investments made by villagers in small savings certificates and their savings made after meeting their requirements, in banks opened in rural areas, also point to their increasingly better material conditions.

1. Erskine, K.D., *op. cit.*, Vol. III-A, p. 112.

EMPLOYMENT

Employment opportunities in the district are normally very limited, though the development works undertaken under the Plan programmes and famine relief help in providing increased number of jobs.

No survey or study to show the extent of employment in various sectors of the district economy is available. According to the 1961 Census the number of unemployed persons aged 15 and above in urban areas was 253 (229 males and 24 females). 147 (127 males and 20 females) of them were seeking employment for the first time, while 106 (102 males and 4 females) had been employed earlier but were later thrown out of employment. Their categorisation according to educational level was 105 (82 males and 23 females) illiterate, 106 (all males) literate (without educational level), 9 (8 males and 1 female) with education upto primary or junior basic standard, 23 (all males) with qualification of matriculation or higher secondary, and 10 (all males) holders of University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree. Of the persons seeking employment for the first time, 74 (54 males and 20 females) were illiterate, 44 literate (without educational level), 4 primary or junior basic, 16 with education upto matriculation or higher secondary and 9 university degree or post-graduate degree holders other than technical degree. The 106 persons (102 males and 4 females) employed before but out of employment and seeking work constituted of 31 (28 males and 3 females) illiterates, 62 literates (without educational level), 5 (4 males and 1 female) with primary or junior basic education, 7 with matriculation or higher secondary educational level and one holder of university degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree.

As for rural areas, the number of unemployed persons (aged 15 and above) was 129¹ (122 males and 7 females). Details of rural unemployed persons by educational level in Nagaur district at the time of the 1961 Census were as follows :

Particulars	Males	Females	Total
Illiterate	71	7	78
Literate (without educational level)	34	—	34

1. *Census of India 1961, op. cit.*, p. 157.

1	2	3	4
Primary or Junior Basic	6	—	6
Matriculation and above	11	—	11
Total	122	7	129

Employment Exchange

After the end of the Second World War, the employment services were set up with a view to rehabilitating the ex-servicemen discharged from the army. After partition, these services were extended to cover the displaced persons migrating from Pakistan. In the year 1957, on the recommendations of the Shiva Rao Committee, the Notification of Vacancies Act, 1957 was passed by the Parliament¹.

The District Employment Exchange was started in the month of April, 1960 with its headquarters at Nagaur to cater to the needs of the unemployed and under-employed persons of the district. Employment seekers are registered and job-opportunities are discovered for them through the Employment Exchange. The unemployed population of the district may be divided into two broad groups. The first group consists of persons having no gainful employment at all, while the second group includes persons who are under-employed, including casual workers, seasonal agricultural labourers, domestic servants and other part-time workers or persons who are not satisfied with their present jobs.

The following table shows the number of registrations and employers using the services of the Employment Exchange, during the years 1960 to 1969² :

Year	Registrations		Employers using the exchange				
	Total	Females	Central Govt.	State Govt.	Local bodies	Private	Total
1960	3,030	170	10	80	90	—	180
1961	3,357	149	14	90	57	1	162
1962	2,673	128	22	80	74	4	180
1963	3,544	119	22	95	89	5	211
1964	3,813	127	23	131	69	1	224
1965	3,903	138	23	122	67	—	212

1. Source : Office of the Employment Officer, Nagaur.

2. *ibid.*

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1966	4,318	241	26	71	75	7	179
1967	4,016	178	18	62	39	8	127
1968	4,005	199	20	62	61	5	148
1969	3,131	164	3	19	69	8	99

The above table reveals that the number of registrations in case of women and that of private employers using the services of Employment Exchange, is very small.

The vacancies notified and placings made through the Employment Exchange, Nagaur during the last decade ending 1969 were as follows¹:

Year	Vacancies notified				Placings made			
	Central Govt.	State Govt.	Quasi-Govt., Local bodies and private employers	Total	Central Govt.	State Govt.	Quasi-Govt., Local bodies and private employers	Total
1960	16	481	125	622	7	383	88	478
1961	10	376	454	840	7	357	431	795
1962	5	349	275	629	2	318	222	542
1963	5	427	177	609	1	401	145	547
1964	—	363	198	561	1	339	174	514
1965	—	304	121	425	—	286	133	419
1966	113	128	550	797	111	114	556	781
1967	5	206	191	402	5	199	164	368
1968	7	230	188	398	7	150	163	320
1969	3	122	65	190	4	110	72	186

The above figures indicate that mostly the State Government and local bodies notify their vacancies and maximum number of placings is also done by them. Only a few private employers are covered by the Notification of Vacancies Act and others usually do not take advantage of the facilities offered by the Employment Exchange. The other fact which comes to light is that all the notified vacancies are not filled in. The main reason for it was the difficulty in finding suitable persons for the jobs offered, which made employers postpone recruitment. Another reason for the unfilled vacancies is the general unwillingness of the job-seekers to

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.

accept the jobs offered. The number of females placed was 69 in 1960, 57 in 1961, 19 in 1962, 26 in 1963, 29 in 1964, 40 in 1965, 52 in 1966, 36 in 1967, 38 in 1968 and 33 in 1969.

All the unemployed persons do not register themselves in the Employment Exchange because most of those living in rural areas, and some in urban areas, are still ignorant of the help rendered by the Employment Exchange in securing jobs, while many who are aware of these facilities are unwilling to take advantage of them. The registrations are, therefore, helpful in making only a rough estimate of the unemployed persons in the district. The number of persons on the live register of the Nagaur Employment Exchange at the end of various years has been as follows¹ :

Year	Males	Females	Total
1960	750	19	769
1961	810	31	841
1962	891	50	941
1963	1,170	39	1,209
1964	1,478	23	1,501
1965	1,381	38	1,419
1966	1,712	100	1,812
1967	2,237	50	2,287
1968	1,990	75	2,065
1969	1,235	50	1,285

Occupational classification of the applicants on the live register which further throw light on the unemployment situation in the district, has been as follows² :

Year	Professional, technical and related workers	Administrative, executive and managerial workers	Clerical and related workers	Others	Total
1961	45	7	15	774	841
1962	64	2	17	858	941
1963	65	3	24	1,117	1,209
1964	47	-	15	1,439	1,501
1965	44	-	9	1,366	1,419

1. Source : Office of the Employment Officer, Nagaur.

2. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1966	60	—	13	1,739	1,812
1967	77	1	18	2,191	2,287
1968	273	3	11	1,778	2,065
1969*	337	2	112	1,760	2,211

The Employment Exchange, Nagaur launched detailed studies under the Intensive Employment Market Programme and the first report was published for the year 1965-66. Since then these reports are being published regularly. Under this scheme, information is collected by what is known as Establishment Reporting System, whereby all the public establishments and private establishments employing ten or more persons submit quarterly returns about persons employed by them. Details of persons employed in private and public sectors as on last day of each year in Nagaur district are given in the following table¹:

Year	Public sector	Private sector	Total
1964	1,107	6,498	7,605
1965	1,746	6,829	8,575
1966	1,401	7,188	8,589
1967	1,231	7,304	8,535
1968	1,755	8,732	10,487
1969	1,885	10,113	11,998

Employment of Women

Majority of women workers in the district are illiterate and employed as casual labourers in mines, quarries, *bidi* industry and construction works. Only a few are literate and are employed as teachers, typists and in medical profession. The following are the details of the women employees in the district²:

Period ³	Public sector	Private sector	Total
1962-63	162	36	198
1963-64	291	17	308

*Data as on 30 June, 1969.

1. Source : Office of the Employment Officer, Nagaur.

2. *Ibid.*

3. Data for years 1962-63 to 1965-66 relate to calendar years 1962 to 1965.

1	2	3	4
1964-65	228	98	326
1965-66	239	106	345
1966-67	249	103	352
1967-68	288	200	488
1968-69	330	223	553

PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT

Community Development and National Extension Service

The First Five Year Plan struck the keynote of the Community Development Programme. National Extension Service was visualised as the agency and the Community Development the method through which the Five Year Plan was to initiate a process of transformation of the social and economic life of the villages. This movement of aided self-help thus symbolised an integrated extension agency with new extension methods, a multi-purpose development programme, novel techniques of community mobilisation and a process of education.

The Community Development Programme was started in Rajasthan on 2nd October, 1952. In Nagaur district the first National Extension Service Block was opened at Didwana in 1953-54. On 2nd October, 1959 the scheme of Democratic Decentralisation was introduced in Rajasthan. Under this scheme, village panchayats were made the administrative units at village level, functioning with the help of village committees in cases panchayats covered more than one village. The panchayat is the basic unit and is primarily responsible for planning and execution of development programmes. At the block level, Panchayat Samitis were constituted to execute the development schemes, and at the district level the Zila Parishad works as supervisory co-ordinating bodies. The whole district has been delimited into 11 blocks, viz, Didwana, Degana, Mundwa, Nagaur, Ladnun, Kuchaman, Makrana, Jayal, Riyan, Merta and Parvatsar. Details about these are given in the Chapter XIV viz Local Self-Government.

Planning

Planning as mechanism for the building up, by democratic means, a rapidly expanding and a technologically progressive economy and a social order based on justice and offering equal opportunities to every

citizen, was introduced for the first time when the First Five-Year Plan for the country was formed.

FIRST FIVE YEAR PLAN (1951-56)—The main objective of this plan was to make good the deficiency in food resources and to bring about an all round development in rural areas in particular. This was the first in the series of national plans that were to follow, and was of the nature of an emergency plan designed to create an infra-structure for future economic development and planning. Schemes of immediate importance were taken up and implemented. Co-ordinated schemes for the development of the activities of basic departments like agriculture, irrigation, education, public health and social welfare etc. were set in motion. Since the plan was not broken up district-wise, the data regarding allotment and expenditure are not available. The First Five Year Plan for Rajasthan made a total provision of Rs. 64.5 crores for the State as a whole¹. Important land-mark achieved in the Plan was in the field of land reforms, introduced through the passing of the Rajasthan Land Reforms and Resumption of Jagirs Act, 1952 and of the Rajasthan Tenancy Act, 1955. Distribution of improved varieties of seeds, agricultural implements, fertilisers etc. and taking up of one minor irrigation work were the other main achievements under this Plan.

SECOND FIVE YEAR PLAN (1956-61)—The total expenditure in Nagaur district during the Second Five Year Plan period was Rs. 214.65 lakhs, year-wise details of which are given below²:

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
1956-57	19.62
1957-58	27.61
1958-59	36.90
1959-60	51.99
1960-61	78.53
TOTAL	214.65

Sector-wise details of expenditure on schemes operating in the district during the Second Plan period were as follows³ :

1. *A Decade of Planned Economy*, Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur, p. 2.
2. *Second Five Year Plan, Progress Report, Rajasthan, 1956-61*, pp. LXXXII.
3. *ibid.*, pp. LXXXII—LXXXV.

Sector	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
Agriculture	21.87
Animal Husbandry	2.47
Co-operation	5.57
Forests and Soil Conservation	1.78
Community Development and National Extension Service	43.89
Irrigation	3.93
Power	30.37
Industries	6.76
Roads	36.69
Education	32.85
Medical and Health	5.15
Ayurved	0.97
Water supply	17.08
Housing	2.65
Labour and Labour Welfare	0.37
Social Welfare and Welfare of backward classes	0.99
Publicity	1.15
Statistics	0.11
TOTAL	214.65

The expenditure incurred in Nagaur district constituted about 2 per cent of the total Plan expenditure for the whole of the State of Rajasthan. The per-capita expenditure in the district during the whole Plan period as per 1961 Census figures works out to Rs. 23.01, as against Rs. 47.74 for the State as a whole.

A glance at the expenditure pattern shows that maximum expenditure was incurred on community development and national extension service. It constituted 20.4 per cent of the total Plan expenditure. Next highest expenditure was incurred on development of roads, which was 17.1 per cent of the total Plan expenditure. Out of 15 road works (5 carried over from First Plan and 10 taken up during the Second Plan), 9 road works (5 carried over from the First Plan and 4 taken up during the Second Plan) were completed.

The road length which was 1,136 km. in 1955-56 increased to 1,513 km. in 1960-61¹. Education, power, agriculture and water supply were the

1. *Second Five Year Plan, op. cit.*, p. LLXXIII.

other sectors on which considerable amount was spent. Six minor irrigation works were started during the Second Five Year Plan period of which only one was completed. The number of veterinary hospitals and dispensaries increased from 12 in 1957-58 to 14 in 1960-61. The number of hospitals, dispensaries and beds were 7, 8 and 62 in 1955 which increased to 9, 11 and 124 respectively in 1960. Rs. 2.80 lakhs were distributed as loans for building of houses under low income and middle income groups housing schemes during 1956-61; 188 houses were constructed and 83 were under construction. The Government cattle breeding farm, Nagaur, was reorganised with a view to breed pedigree bulls.

THIRD FIVE YEAR PLAN (1961-66)—Total Plan expenditure in the district was to the tune of Rs. 304.45 lakhs as compared to Rs. 214.65 lakhs during the Second Five Year Plan. Year-wise expenditure during the Third Plan in the district is shown below²:

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
1961-62	55.53
1962-63	53.24
1963-64	55.87
1964-65	67.30
1965-66	72.51
TOTAL	304.45

The expenditure during the Third Five Year Plan exceeded by 41.4 per cent the expenditure incurred during the Second Five Year Plan, but was 2.9 per cent of the expenditure on district schemes in the whole State. The per capita expenditure during the period was Rs. 32.56 as against Rs. 105.35 for the whole of Rajasthan. The sector-wise expenditure incurred during the Third Five Year Plan in Nagaur district is given below³:

Sector	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
Agricultural Production	8.12
Minor Irrigation	30.01
Soil Conservation	3.32

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, yearly volumes for 1957 (p. 65) and 1962 (p. 81).

2. *Tritiya Panchvarshiya Yojna, Pragati Pravedan, 1961-66 (Rajasthan)*, p. 234.

3. *ibid.*, pp. 235-240.

1	2
Animal Husbandry	8.52
Forests	0.18
Storage, Marketing and Warehousing	0.10
Co-operation	8.11
Community Development	59.21
Panchayats	12.45
Large and Medium Industries	26.17
Village and Small Industries	2.09
Roads and Communication	29.71
General Education and Cultural Programme	49.15
Modern Medicine	26.64
Ayurved	1.58
Water Supply	33.49
Housing	1.18
Welfare of Backward Classes	1.64
Labour and Labour Welfare	2.74
Statistics	0.04
TOTAL	304.45

A number of schemes were implemented to raise agricultural production of the district, such as starting of seed multiplication farm and distribution of fertilisers, farm manures and pesticides, during the Third Plan period. To popularise improved agricultural implements and to facilitate their availability, an agricultural workshop was set up at Nagaur. Increased emphasis was placed on irrigation as key to agricultural prosperity. Minor irrigation works at Harsor, Bharunda, Pipalia, Pir-ji-ka Naka, Bhakri and Harsolao were completed and at Gograna, Palri and Bodi were under completion. In 1961, the number of ploughs was 104,316, of tractors 67, oil engines 51 and electric pumps 8; their number increased to ploughs 1,16,269, tractors 280, oil engines 88 and electric pumps 101 by 1966. In the field of co-operation, the district made very good progress during the period. There were 744 co-operative societies with 35,271 members in 1960-61. These increased to 955 with 50,589 members by the end of the Third Five Year Plan (1965-66). The share capital and working capital rose from Rs. 18.93 lakhs and Rs. 107.85 lakhs to Rs. 29.26 lakhs and to Rs. 124.91 lakhs during the period. In the field of education, there were 933 educational institutions in 1960-61, the last year of the Second Five Year Plan and they increased to 1,201 in 1965-66, the last year of the Third Five Year Plan. The number of scholars studying in

them increased from 60.6 thousand in 1960-61 to 94 thousand in 1965-66. As against 5 primary health centres, 11 general hospitals and 9 dispensaries in the district in 1961, the number of these institution in 1966 was 11, 14 and 7 respectively. More and more people made use of medical facilities. The number of in-door patients treated was 2,540 in 1961 and rose to 27,058 in 1966. Similarly the number of out-door patients increased from 4.13 lakhs in 1961 to 4.80 lakhs in 1966. The number of State owned Ayurvedic and Unani dispensaries was 59 in 1965-66 having increased from 47 in 1960-61. The road length of the district increased from 1,513 km. in 1960-61 to 1,717 km. in the year 1965-66. At the end of the Third Five Year Plan the road length was 9.54 km. per 100 sq. km. and 1.84 km. per 1,000 of population, which was slightly higher than 8.95 km. and 1.52 km. respectively, recorded for the State as a whole. Under the urban water supply scheme, water works at Merta City, Ladnun, Nagaur and Didwana to benefit 73 thousand inhabitants of these towns were completed. Under the rural scheme, Tinwari, Jaswantgarh, Nimod and Pachori water supply schemes were completed to benefit 97 thousand persons in all.

ANNUAL PLANS (1966-67 to 1968-69)—Three annual Plans were taken up after the completion of the Third Five Year Plan. 1969-70 marked the beginning of the Fourth Five Year Plan. Rs. 277.59 lakhs were spent during the period 1966-69 and another Rs. 80.93 lakhs during 1969-70 on district schemes in Nagaur district. Sector-wise details of this expenditure are given in Appendix IV. The per-capita Plan expenditure during 1966-69 was Rs. 29.69 and in 1969-70 Rs. 8 66.

1. *Yojna Pragati Prativedan*, 1969-70 (Rajasthan), p. 129.

APPENDIX I

Annual average retail prices of selected articles in Jodhpur State

(Seers per rupee)

Year	Rice	Wheat	Barley	Jowar (Cholam)	Bajra (Cumbu)	Gram	Maize	Arhar	Salt
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1873	8.00	13.88	18.23	16.03	14.60	16.33	—	—	49.70
1874	7.40	14.67	18.87	15.84	15.91	15.70	—	—	50.00
1875	7.46	15.82	25.52	22.59	21.84	15.80	—	—	52.34
1876	7.71	16.57	26.66	27.88	24.95	21.63	—	—	54.14
1877	7.88	15.15	21.81	23.42	20.90	23.65	—	—	49.07
1878	5.47	8.58	12.63	13.55	11.86	13.39	—	—	38.97
1879	5.99	11.35	15.81	13.29	13.27	14.32	—	—	16.01
1880	6.24	15.11	21.93	20.81	18.20	17.15	—	—	15.53
1881	6.35	15.76	21.26	21.55	18.92	16.46	—	—	14.58
1882	7.41	16.62	22.95	22.17	19.89	20.05	—	—	14.80
1883	7.62	15.85	20.94	20.40	18.39	20.08	—	—	15.45
1884	7.45	16.68	22.04	19.17	18.43	19.67	—	—	15.29
1885	7.37	18.14	24.37	23.64	21.01	24.95	—	—	15.95
1886	7.45	17.14	24.31	23.23	21.19	24.32	22.21	—	16.07
1887	7.99	11.95	19.60	21.44	19.70	19.32	18.68	—	16.38
1888	7.58	11.58	15.72	14.88	14.32	16.22	12.60	—	13.55
1889	7.50	13.32	18.25	15.47	14.75	16.83	15.42	—	13.10
1890	7.65	14.32	19.17	18.90	17.62	16.28	17.87	—	12.87
1891	7.45	12.10	16.37	15.42	14.70	14.65	14.80	—	13.27
1892	7.50	11.41	15.21	16.27	13.72	15.78	16.05	10.45	13.38
1893	7.30	14.33	23.50	25.02	21.91	23.53	16.10	11.15	13.23
1894	7.56	15.62	24.50	21.34	19.66	26.48	20.89	11.34	12.78
1895	7.50	13.12	19.15	18.07	15.30	21.31	17.17	10.39	13.31
1896	7.29	9.76	13.96	13.27	11.20	12.97	14.23	8.99	13.12
1897	6.20	8.87	11.62	9.54	10.91	8.55	11.14	6.39	13.23
1898	7.03	11.81	16.47	15.91	15.19	13.41	17.16	7.27	12.83
1899	7.87	11.38	14.69	14.15	13.22	12.32	14.65	9.51	13.65
1900	7.53	8.95	21.57	10.10	10.14	9.98	11.38	8.38	13.69
1901	7.50	11.12	15.73	16.70	15.78	14.51	14.30	8.25	13.54
1902	7.50	11.13	14.94	14.65	13.36	13.69	15.60	9.46	13.91
1903	7.49	11.79	16.73	18.90	15.01	15.20	21.31	8.88	16.05
1904	7.50	14.72	20.07	20.34	19.85	18.53	21.89	8.96	16.50

APPENDIX I

(Seers per rupee)									
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1905	7.50	11.70	15.43	15.26	14.27	14.79	15.79	8.92	16.50
1906	7.50	10.97	13.59	14.08	12.70	12.21	13.86	7.17	16.60
1907	6.42	11.15	15.94	16.46	15.34	14.56	17.06	6.76	16.65
1908	6.33	8.45	12.04	12.77	10.44	11.46	13.00	6.52	16.32
1909	6.49	9.94	16.74	16.48	13.66	15.65	13.00	6.74	16.47

Source : *Prices & Wages in India*, 1910, pp. 16 to 85.

APPENDIX II

Prices of important food crops as prevailing in Jodhpur State

(Seers and Chhatanks per rupee)

Year	Wheat		Barley		Jowar		Baira		Gram		Moong		Moth		Maize	
	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.	S.	Ch.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1911	11	1	13	9	11	6	11	11	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1912	10	6	13	—	13	5½	10	12½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1913	9	12	13	—	13	—	12	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1914	9	4	11	6	12	—	10	10	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1915	7	2	10	14	10	12	11	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1916	7	4½	9	13¼	12	10½	9	15	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1917	8	2	12	6	15	14¼	15	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1918	7	10½	—	—	9	4¼	10	3½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1919	5	1½	6	14½	4	15¼	4	14	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1920	5	2½	9	5½	8	3¼	7	10½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1921	5	9¾	7	13½	6	7	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1922	4	3½	6	9	6	14¼	5	13½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1923	6	8	11	8½	10	9½	8	11½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1924	7	6	12	6¼	10	14½	8	8	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1925	5	14½	8	9½	9	11	8	15½	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1926	6	6	7	15	7	4	6	4	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1927	5	4	9	2	9	8	8	15	8	6	6	0	10	0	8	8
1928	7	6½	9	5	8	8	8	½	9	6	6	5¼	10	6½	8	10
1929	4	11	7	8	7	6	6	9	6	4	6	11	9	13½	6	12
1930	7	1	8	8	7	1½	8	7	6	9	5	4	6	8¾	7	6½
1931	12	0	13	15	13	4	15	9	8	14	6	9½	9	3	12	13¾
1932	13	5	15	13½	12	14½	17	9	12	1½	7	5	13	3½	13	5½
1933	11	8	13	14	11	9	13	15	13	5¼	8	8½	13	6	12	1
1934	11	2	14	7	13	10	19	3	12	3	11	8½	14	11	15	0
1935	9	5	17	6	16	4	13	7	13	7	12	14	17	12	13	13
1936	10	6	17	5	16	13	14	13	15	10	11	15	18	2	15	4
1937	8	2	13	4	13	13	10	8	11	10	7	1	13	1	10	0
1938	7	12	12	1	11	9	10	2	10	12	7	6	12	2	11	14
1940	6	6	10	4	10	0	8	4	7	4	5	4	7	10	10	8
1941	6	6	12	12	13	12	12	9	11	5	7	2	12	0	13	0
1942	6	3	9	4	8	8	8	6½	8	15	5	8	8	8	9	4

APPENDIX II (Concl'd.)

(Seers and Chhatanks per rupee).

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1943	6	0	7	0	7	0	7	12	7	0	5	0	7	14	7	0
1944	4	4	—	—	—	—	5	9	5	7	6	6	7	8	—	—
1945	4	4	6	4	4	6	4	12	7	$\frac{1}{2}$	4	12	5	12	—	—
1946	2	8	4	4	3	4	3	8	4	12	4	2	5	4	—	—

Source : *Reports on the Administration of the Jodhpur (Marwar) State*, volumes for various years.

APPENDIX III

Minimum wages fixed under the Minimum Wages Act 1948, during 1968-69

S.No.	Employment in	Class of workman	Minimum Wages (Rs.)
1.	Agriculture	(i) Male	52.50 per month
		(ii) Female	45.00 per month
		(iii) Child	00.87 per day
2.	Oil Mills	(i) Unskilled	60.00 per month or 2.31 per day inclusive of weekly day of rest
		(ii) Semi-skilled	85.00 per month
		(iii) Skilled	100.00 per month
3.	Wool cleaning and pressing factories	(i) Unskilled	60.00 per month or 2.31 per day inclusive of weekly holiday
		(ii) Semi-skilled	80.00 per month
		(iii) Skilled	100.00 per month
4.	Cotton ginning and pressing and bailing establishments	(i) Unskilled	60.00 per month or 2.31 per day inclusive of weekly holiday
		(ii) Semi-skilled	80.00 per month
		(iii) Skilled	100.00 per month
5.	Public motor transport	(i) Unskilled	60.00 per month
		(ii) Semi-skilled	85.00 „ „
		(iii) Skilled	100.00 „ „
		(iv) Inspecting staff	100.00 „ „
		(v) Office staff	100.00 „ „
		(vi) Traffic staff :	
		(a) Cleaner	65.00 „ „
		(b) Conductor	85.00 „ „
		(c) Driver	100.00 „ „
6.	Rice, flour and Dal mills	(i) Skilled	100.00 „ „

1	2	3	4
		(ii) Semi-skilled	80.00 per month
		(iii) Unskilled	60.00 „ „
		(iv) Clerical Staff	100.00 „ „
7. Printing Presses		(i) Unskilled	60.00 per month or 2 31 per day inclu- sive of weekly holi- day
		(ii) Semi-skilled	80.00 per month
		(iii) Skilled	100.00 „ „
8. Mica Works (other than Mica Mining)		(i) Unskilled	60.00 „ „
		(ii) Dressers & sorters	75.00 „ „
		(iii) Cutter	40 paise per kg. of mica cut but not less than 60.00 per month
		(iv) Clerk	100.00 per month
9. Mica mines		(i) Unskilled	60.00 „ „
		(ii) Semi-skilled :	
		(a) Dresser	75.00 „ „
		(b) Sorter	75.00 „ „
		(c) Mate	80.00 „ „
		(d) Carpenter	85.00 „ „
		(e) Blacksmith	85.00 „ „
		(f) Fitter	85.00 „ „
		(g) Machine driver upto 10 HP	90.00 „ „
		(h) Engine driver	90.00 „ „
		(i) Compressor driver	90.00 „ „
		(j) Blaster with restricted certificate	90.00 „ „
		(k) Hand driver	90.00 „ „

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

1	2	3	4
		(iii) Skilled :	
		(a) Blaster with unrestricted certificate	110.00 per month
		(b) Fitter	100.00 „ „
		(c) Electrician	100.00 „ „
		(d) Driver of machine of more than 10-HP	100.00 „ „
		(iv) Traffic staff	
		(a) Cleaner	65.00 „ „
		(b) Jeep & light vehicle driver	100.00 „ „
		(c) Truck driver	125.00 „ „
		(v) Piece rate workman (cutter):	0.40 paise per kg. of Mica cut (inclusive of Sunday wages) but not less than 60.00 per month
10. Local Authority		(i) Unskilled	60.00 per month
		(ii) Semi-skilled	85.00 „ „
		(iii) Skilled	100.00 „ „
		(iv) Traffic staff :	
		(a) Motor driver of light vehicle	100.00 „ „
		(b) Motor driver of heavy vehicle	125.00 „ „
		(c) Tractor driver	125.00 „ „
		(d) Heavy truck driver	125.00 „ „
		(e) Earth moving equipment driver	150.00 „ „
		(v) Office staff	85 to 125 per month
		(vi) Field staff	100 per month

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

1	2	3	4
11.	Construction or maintenance of roads or in building operations	(i) Unskilled: (a) Beldar, halli, chowkidar, work-keeper, Farrash Dhobi, waterman, Bhisti sweeper 60.00 per month (b) Mate, head gardener Jama-dar, helper, Fireman, spray-man, chainman, gauge reader 65.00 „ „ (ii) Semi-skilled: Driver of machinery upto 10 HP, hand driller, stone dresser and cutter 90.00 „ „ (iii) Skilled: (a) Cinema operator 100.00 „ „ (b) Mechanical driller and plater 110.00 „ „ (c) Road roller driver and truck driver 125.00 „ „ (d) Earth moving equipment driver/operator 150.00 „ „	
12.	Stone breaking and stone crushing	(i) Unskilled: (a) Beldar, Chowkidar, work-keeper, waterman, sweeper, stone breaker and stone carrier 60.00 „ „ (b) Mate, Jamadar, helper, chainman 65.00 „ „ (c) Male and female young persons 52.00 „ „	

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

1	2	3	4
		(ii) Semi-skilled :	
		Driver of machinery upto 10 HP, hand driller, stone dresser and cutter	90.00 per month
		(iii) Skilled :	
		(a) Driver of motor vehicle, mistri, carpenter, welder, blacksmith, mechanic, fitter, fireman, turner, moulder, electrician, wireman	100.00 ,, ,,
		(b) Mechanical driller and blaster, stone crusher, operator	110.00 ,, ,,
		(c) Truck driver	125.00 ,, ,,
13.	Woollen carpet making or shawl weaving establishments	(i) Time rate manual occupations	Minimum rate 60.00 per month or 2.31 per day inclusive of paid weekly holiday
		(ii) Piece rate occupations :	
		(a) Yarn opener	15 paise per kg. (hand spun and upto 30 counts), 30 paise per kg. (mill spun and upto 40 counts), 50 paise per kg. (mill spun and upto 70 counts)
		(b) Spinner	75 paise per kg. of wool spun

APPENDIX (Contd.)

1	2	3	4
		(c) Washerman	100 per month
		(d) Dyer	125 „ „
		(e) Weaver	
		Plain carpet	
		(one colour):	
		(i) Upto 40,000	
		knots per	5.25 per sq. yard
		square yard	
		(ii) Over 40,000	
		knots per sq.	
		yard	5.75 per sq. yard
		Designed Carpet :	
		(i) Upto 30,000	
		knots per sq. yard	
		upto 15 colours	6.50 per sq. yard
		(ii) From 30,000	
		knots to 40,000	
		knots per sq.	
		yard upto 20	
		colours	7.50 per sq. yard
		(iii) Over 40,000	
		knots per sq.	
		yard for more	
		than 20 colours	8.75 per sq. yard
		(iv) Clippers	120 per month or
			31 paise per sq.
			yard.
		(v) Embossers	135 per month
		(vi) Carpet mistries	125 per month
14. Tobacco (including bidi making) manufacturing		(i) Bidi roller	2.00 per 1000 bidis or 85 per month
		(ii) Bidi sorter and checker (full time workers)	100 per month
		(iii) Bundle wrapper and packer	85 per month or 2.00 per 1000 bundles

APPENDIX III (Concl'd.)

1	2	3	4
		(iv) Snuff making	2.31 per day or 60 per month
15. Salt industry		(i) Manufacturing operations	1.75 per day for an adult worker, male or female, inclusive of weekly day of rest
		(ii) Extraction and storage	85 paise per 100 cft.
		(iii) Heaping	2.00 per day for an adult worker, male or female exclusive of weekly days of rest
			washing & loading into trucks, or wherever carried on jointly by the same set of workers
		(iv) Despatch operations	6.31 per 156 bags or 145 quintals or 2.00 per day
		(a) Weighing & loading into wagons	12.31 per 156 bags or 145 quintals or 2.00 per day
		(b) Sewing	1.75 per day per adult worker exclusive of weekly days of rest
		(v) General-for pumpingmen or mistris	2.50 per day per adult worker, exclusive of weekly days of rest
		(vi) For other operations or occupations, not described	1.75 per day per adult worker male or female exclusive of weekly days of rest

APPENDIX IV

Plan Expenditure in Nagaur District

Sector	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)	
	1966-69 ¹	1969-70 ²
Agricultural Production	1.71	0.09
Minor Irrigation	25.01	0.19
Soil Conservation	3.68	—
Animal Husbandry	1.60	0.66
Forests	0.11	—
Storage, marketing and warehousing	0.03	—
Co-operation	0.88	1.37
Community Development	18.62	2.51
Panchayats	0.63	—
Power	107.55	46.06
Mining	2.66	2.16
Large and Medium Industries	30.69	12.63
Village and Small Industries	0.64	0.20
Roads	11.77	0.97
General Education and Cultural Programme	26.15	3.96
Modern Medicine	10.13	0.02
Ayurved	1.14	—
Water Supply	31.85	0.09
Housing	0.14	—
Social Welfare	0.06	—
Labour and Labour Welfare	1.09	0.13
Public Co-operation	—	0.01
TOTAL	277.9	80.93

Sources : 1. *Yojna Pragati Prativedan*, 1966-69, pp. 166-175.
 2. *ibid*, 1969-70, pp. 120-128.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prior to merger of the State into Rajasthan, the area now comprising Nagaur district consisted of four *parganas* or *Hakumats* viz., Nagaur, Merta, Parvatsar and Didwana of Marwar State and Nawa region of Sambhar *pargana*. The area was administered in accordance with the rules and regulations framed from time to time in the former Marwar State.

The appointment of a British Political Agent in 1839 led to the establishment of certain courts at the capital and in the districts. In the year 1882, a regular system of judicial and revenue administration was introduced by establishment of a Board of Administration called *Mahakma Khas*¹ and courts of *Hakims*. The *Mahakma Khas* was the highest judicial tribunal and exercised full powers of revision and control over the subordinate courts and acted as practically the final court of appeal in both civil and criminal cases. The work of administration was carried on by the *Musahib Ala* aided by a council consisting of three members and one secretary and the orders of the ruler issued through this council.

The entire Jodhpur State was divided into *Parganas* and each *Pargana* was placed in charge of a *Hakim*, who used to exercise both judicial and executive functions and dealt directly with the *Mahakma Khas*. The judicial powers of the jagirdars were brought in line with those of State courts after proper classification and definition thereof.²

The *Mahakma Khas* was divided into five branches viz., Military, Financial, Judicial, Foreign and Miscellaneous and was responsible for (i) hearing appeals from the decisions of the appellate and jagirdars' courts, (ii) exercising supervision and control over Durbar Treasury and its management, (iii) passing orders in cases of capital punishments, (iv) issuing orders and instructions to all the functionaries of the State, (v) suppressing of dacoity and highway robbery, (vi) issuing orders on reports from *Hakumats*, subordinate courts and departments, (vii) carrying on correspondence with the Political Agent with the prior approval of the ruler and (viii) introducing reforms and improvements into the general system of administration.

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, 1943-44, p. 43.

2. *ibid.*, 1942-43, p. 43.

The *Hakim*, in-charge of a *Hakumat*, combined in him civil, criminal, revenue and executive functions. On the civil side his pecuniary jurisdiction extended upto Rs. 500 and on criminal side he was competent to award imprisonment upto four months, impose fines upto Rs. 200 and inflict sentence of whipping not exceeding six strips¹.

In 1912, the judicial system of the State was reorganised² and the chief court was established to which most of the powers of the *Mahakma Khas* were transferred and it was authorised to try, on the original side, suits of the value of over Rs. 10,000. The State was divided into four circles with a Judicial Superintendent in-charge of each circle. The *Hakims* were empowered to award imprisonment upto six months.

The judiciary was further reorganised in 1924 and the District and Sessions Courts³ took the place of *Fauzdari* and civil courts and the courts of the *Sardars*. Two courts of Honorary Magistrates were established, and the courts of *Naib-Hakims* also came into existence for the first time. The jurisdiction of all the courts, both original and appellate, was considerably modified.

In 1932, the *Hakims* were empowered to try suits upto the value of Rs. 1,000. The *Naib-Hakims* were vested with powers of the second class magistrate and of hearing money suits not exceeding Rs. 200 in value⁴. In 1942, a beginning was made to separate judicial and executive functions of the *Hakims* and four executive *Hakims* were appointed, of which one was posted at Nagaur⁵. The executive and judicial functions of the *Hakims* of Merta, Didwana and Parvatsar were separated though the *Hakims* and *Naib-Hakims* (first and second class magistrates) had to perform a number of executive duties in addition to judicial work⁶. They also tried revenue cases as Assistant Revenue Officers.

With a view to associating the public with the administration in an increasing degree, a Central Advisory Board, at Jodhpur and District Advisory Boards at *Hakumat* headquarters were established in 1938-39. In 1941-42, the Representative Advisory Assembly was set up in place of Central Advisory Board, abolished under the new arrangements⁷. The Representative Advisory Assembly comprised 41 elected and 23 nominated members, and had the full right of interpellation on specified subjects

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, 1885-86, p. 13.

2. *ibid.*, 1912-13, pp. 3-4.

3. *ibid.*, 1923-24, pp. iii and 17.

4. *ibid.*, 1931-32, p. 42.

5. *ibid.*, 1941-42, p. 2.

6. *ibid.*

7. *ibid.*, p. 138.

of social and public interest. The Panchayats were vested with administrative functions relating to sanitation, public health and water supply in villages, management of village schools and control of religious and charitable endowments. On the judicial side, they had the power to try civil suits upto the value of Rs. 50, making available to the public locally cheap and speedy justice.

The State employees were governed by the Marwar Service Regulations which were similar to the British India Civil Service Regulations, guaranteeing security and fixity of tenure in public service¹. The members of superior services enjoyed the benefit of provident fund to which the State contributed one month's salary annually, while officials belonging to the sub-ordinate services were granted gratuity.

In December 1939, the first Public Service Commission was established² for a term of three years (which was further extended for three years in 1942) with a view to selecting suitable candidates for permanent appointments in the State departments. The Commission was made permanent from 1st October, 1945. In June 1941, the jurisdiction of the Public Service Commission was extended to cover the recruitment of the staff required by the Jodhpur Railway.

On the merger of Jodhpur State into the United State of Greater Rajasthan, the former *Hakumats* were converted into tahsils and district Nagaur was formed with a Collector and District Magistrate as its head. He was put under the administrative control of the Divisional Commissioner with his headquarters at Jodhpur. In November 1961, post of the Divisional Commissioner was abolished and his functions were distributed between the Collector and the Revenue Appellate Authority³, who took over the appellate and revisional jurisdiction of the divisional courts in revenue matters.

For the purpose of revenue administration, there were five tahsils and four sub-divisions. The tahsils were Nagaur, Merta, Didwana, Parvatsar and Nawa, each under a tahsildar. The sub-divisional officers had their headquarters at Nagaur, Merta, Didwana and Parvatsar and Nawa tahsil formed part of Parvatsar sub-division. In November 1954, three more tahsils namely Jayal, Degana and Ladnun and one sub-tahsil Makarana were carved out of the former Nagaur, Merta and Didwana tahsils respectively.

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1941-42*, p.3.

2. *ibid.*, 1945-46, p. 3.

3. Vide The Rajasthan Divisional Commissioner (Office Abolition) Act, 1962, provisio 6 thereof.

PRESENT PATTERN

At present, the district is divided into four sub-divisions, sub-divided into eight tahsils and one sub-tahsil. Area and population of these administrative divisions are given in Chapter I.

Functionally, the district administration is run through various departments, each with its own head at the district level. The Collector and the District Magistrate occupies a pivotal position in the administrative machinery of the district and performs various functions in various capacities. As Collector he is head of the revenue and general administration and as District Magistrate he is responsible for maintaining law and order within his jurisdiction. He is a captain of the team of district officers connected with developmental activities in the district as under Panchayati Raj Scheme his role as the main co-ordinator has become much more pronounced.

The Collector as head of the revenue department in the district is responsible for the collection of land revenue and other governmental dues. He exercises superintendence and control over the sub-divisional officers, tahsildars, *naib-tahsildars*, land records inspectors and the *patwaris* and ensures timely collection of land revenue and other dues. He exercises original and appellate jurisdiction in some of the cases under the Rajasthan Land Revenue Act and the Rajasthan Tenancy Act. Government grant suspension or remission of land revenue in times of natural calamities only on the recommendations of the Collector. He is the custodian of government land and other property including surface water, trees and minerals. He also protects private rights and interests in land so far as such rights and interests have been conceded by the Government.

The Collector, as the Land Records Officer, is responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of land records of the district and timely submission of agricultural statistics to the Board of Revenue, Rajasthan. He is required to tour extensively in the district so that he could supervise the work of subordinate officers and also to keep himself in touch with the public and the problems of the area. He has to inspect the working of tahsil and sub-divisional offices and issue directions to them from time to time.

The Collector, as a District Magistrate, is responsible for maintenance of law and order in the district together with the Superintendent of Police. Although the Superintendent of Police has independent powers and functions so far as recruitment, training and discipline of the police force in the district are concerned, it is his duty to apprise the District

Magistrate with all the important matters relating to commission of crimes, and problems concerning law and order in the district. Before the separation of judiciary from the executive in the year 1962, he was functioning as a Magistrate of the district for administration of criminal justice within the framework of the Code of Criminal Procedure, but as a result of separation of judiciary from the executive he and his sub-ordinate magistrates have been deprived of their judicial functions under the Indian Penal Code. He is, however, still empowered to hear appeals from the orders passed by magistrates of the second class in cases pertaining to special Acts. He exercises all powers under the provision of the Criminal Procedure Code for prevention of breach of peace and maintenance of law and order.

In the field of fiscal administration, he is the head of the government treasury in the district and is responsible for the safe custody of stamps, opium and valuables, for proper accounting of all monetary transactions, and for the accuracy and timely submission of treasury returns to the State Government and the Accountant General, Rajasthan. The day-to-day working of the treasury is, however, looked after by the District Treasury Officer with headquarters at Nagaur and sub-treasury officers (tahsildars) at the tahsil level.

As a District Development Officer, the Collector participates in the meetings of Panchayat Samitis and keeps himself in touch with the developmental activities. He is assisted by a Deputy District Development Officer in day-to-day work relating to Panchayati Raj. He is ex-officio member of the Zila Parishad, and ensures the co-ordination of activities of various departments concerning development. He holds periodical meetings of the district level officers and ensures an all-round and integrated development in the area. The present scheme of development administration is a three-tier system comprising gram panchayats at the primary level, the Panchayat Samitis at the secondary level and the Zila Parishad at the top. He is, an over-all incharge of the execution of the schemes under the Five Year Plans pertaining to his district.

As a District Election Officer, the Collector is responsible for preparation, revision and publication of the electoral rolls in the district under the over-all supervision of the Chief Electoral Officer of the State and puts in gear the whole administrative machinery of the district at the time of general elections. He also organises the municipal elections and conducts panchayat elections in the district.

He regulates movement of foodgrains in the district according to the government instructions and is responsible for distribution of

controlled commodities. The District Supply Officer acts under his direct supervision and control.

In addition to the above mentioned duties, there are other important functions which a collector has to perform. They include registration of transport vehicles, registration of documents relating to property, grant of relief in floods and famines, rehabilitation, issue of licences for arms and ammunition etc.

The office of the Collector is known as the collectorate, which is the nerve centre of the district administration. It consists of twelve sections each under the charge of an officer, though at times, an officer may head more than one section. Next to the Collector, there is an Additional Collector and District Magistrate in the district. For exercising effective supervision, some of the sections are placed directly under the Additional Collector and District Magistrate, while others are directly under the Collector, though all matters of policy and of importance emanating for all sections are put before the Collector for his orders. Some of the important sections of the collectorate are revenue, general, judicial, panchayat and development, elections, accounts, census, land records, supply, transport, famine, vehicle pool, and records room etc. Each section is kept under the immediate charge of an assistant. The office superintendent is the head ministerial officer of the Collectorate and he supervises, controls and co-ordinates the work of various sections in the office. Other ministerial staff consists of 15 lower division clerks, eight upper division clerks, one stenographer, one accountant, three accounts clerks and one Sadar Kanungo.

For administrative convenience, the district has been divided into four sub-divisions each under the charge of a sub-divisional officer. Like the District Magistrate, the sub-divisional officers also used to function as sub-divisional magistrates but after the separation of the judiciary from the executive, they exercise only the powers of magistrates of the first class in relation to some preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code as they are responsible for the maintenance of law and order in their respective areas. The sub-divisional officers are responsible for the realisation of land revenue within their sub-divisions. They are supposed to inspect the work of the tahsildars working under their jurisdictions and go on extensive tours of the area to check *Girdawari* (Crop Inspection) conducted by the *patwaris* and other revenue officials. They try revenue cases sometimes on the spot and have been invested with powers to entertain various application and suits under the Rajasthan Land Revenue & Tenancy Acts. They entuse the *Patwaris* and others to collect land

revenue to the last rupee. The ministerial staff of each sub-division includes a reader, one upper division clerk and five lower division clerks. The sub-divisional officer is the immediate superior to the tahsildars and initiates their annual confidential reports.

There are eight tahsils in the district, each under the charge of a tahsildar. He functions as ex-officio sub-treasury officer and is directly responsible for the realisation of land revenue and the preparation of Annual Registers and other land records. For criminal work, he is vested with second or third class magisterial powers governed by the Code of Criminal Procedure. Under the Indian Registration (Rajasthan Amendment) Act, 1953 he enjoys the powers of a sub-registrar and registers such documents as come within the purview of the Act. He is assisted by requisite staff. There is only one sub-tahsil in the district viz. Makrana which is under the charge of a *naib-tahsildar* who is headquartered there.

Every tahsil is further divided into *girdawar* circles each under the charge of a revenue inspector. The *girdawar* circles are further divided into *patwar* circles known as *patwar-halkas* which are looked after by *patwaris*. The land revenue inspectors supervise the work of *patwaris* who are required to maintain all basic registers connected with land management and perform all functions as laid down in Rajasthan Land Records Manual. The *patwari* is obliged to report any important event or untoward happening in his area to his higher authorities immediately. The *patwar halka* is the basic unit of district revenue administration.

In the horizontal line of district administration, the Superintendent of Police and the District and Sessions Judge occupy pre-eminent places. Maintenance of law and order is also the responsibility of the Superintendent of Police for which he is required to work in close co-operation with the District Magistrate.

The District and Sessions Judge is the highest judicial authority of the district. The headquarters of the District and Sessions Judge for Nagaur district is at Merta, a sub-divisional headquarter. There are two Civil Judges headquartered at Merta and Nagaur, four Munsif Magistrates posted at Merta, Didwana, Parvatsar and Nawa and one additional Munsif Magistrate with headquarters at Merta.

Other officers who constitute the horizontal line of administration deal with agriculture, animal husbandry, employment, jails, co-operation, industries, mines, forests, irrigation, power, education, social welfare, public works, publicity and statistics etc. These departments have assumed great importance only after Independence due to increased tempo of

developmental activity and are playing important roles in the district administration.

A list of officers of Rajasthan Government in Nagaur district is given in Appendix I.

In addition to the State Government offices, a number of Central Government offices are located in the district. The list of such offices and their departmental heads at the district level is given in Appendix II. Further details of all these departments have been mentioned in other chapters of this volume.

APPENDIX I

State Government Officers in Nagaur District

REVENUE DEPARTMENT :

1. Collector, Nagaur.
2. Sub-divisional Officer, Nagaur
3. Sub-divisional Officer, Didwana
4. Sub-divisional Officer, Merta
5. Sub-divisional Officer, Parvatsar
6. Tahsildar, Nagaur
7. Tahsildar, Didwana
8. Tahsildar, Nawa
9. Tahsildar, Ladnun
10. Tahsildar, Jayal
11. Tahsildar, Parvatsar
12. Tahsildar, Degana
13. Naib-Tahsildar, Makrana

MEDICAL AND HEALTH DEPARTMENT :

1. District Medical and Health Officer, Nagaur
2. District Family Planning Officer, Nagaur
3. Medical Officer, T.B. Clinic, Nagaur
4. District Health Officer, Nagaur

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT :

1. Inspector of Schools, Nagaur
2. Principal, Government Degree College, Nagaur
3. Principal, Motilal Bengani College, Ladnun
4. Principal, Bangur College, Didwana
5. Principal, Industrial Training Institute, Nagaur

POLICE DEPARTMENT :

1. Superintendent of Police, Nagaur
2. Dy. Superintendent of Police, Nagaur
3. Dy. Superintendent of Police, Makrana

DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATS DEPARTMENT:

1. Dy. District Development Officer, Nagaur
2. Secretary, Zila Parishad, Nagaur
3. Vikas Adhikari, Panchayat Samiti, Nagaur

APPENDIX I (Contd.)

4. Vikas Adhikari, Panchayat Samiti, Didwana
5. Vikas Adhikari, Panchayat Samiti, Nawa
6. Vikas Adhikari, Panchayat Samiti, Makrana
7. Vikas Adhikari, Panchayat Samiti, Degana
8. Vikas Adhikari, Panchayat Samiti, Mundwa
9. Vikas Adhikari, Panchayat Samiti, Rian
10. Vikas Adhikari, Panchayat Samiti, Merta
11. Vikas Adhikari, Panchayat Samiti, Ladnun
12. Vikas Adhikari, Panchayat Samiti, Jayal
13. Vikas Adhikari, Panchayat Samiti, Parvatsar

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT (under the control of High Court of Rajasthan):

1. District & Sessions Judge, Merta
2. Civil Judge, Nagaur
3. Civil Judge, Merta.
4. Munsif-Magistrate, Didwana
5. Munsif-Magistrate, Parvatsar
6. Munsif-Magistrate, Nawa
7. Munsif-Magistrate, Merta
8. Additional Munsif-Magistrate, Merta

SHEEP & WOOL DEPARTMENT:

1. District Sheep and Wool Officer, Nagaur

PUBLIC HEALTH ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT:

1. Executive Engineer, P.H.E.D., Nagaur
2. Assistant Engineer, P.H.E.D., Nagaur
3. Assistant Engineer, P.H.E.D., Nawa
4. Assistant Engineer, P.H.E.D., Didwana

EXCISE DEPARTMENT:

Assistant Excise Officer, Nagaur

CIVIL DEFENCE AND HOME GUARDS DEPARTMENT:

Deputy Commandant, Home Guards, Nagaur

FOOD DEPARTMENT:

District Supply Officer, Nagaur

AYURVED DEPARTMENT:

Inspector, Ayurvedic Aushadhalayas, Nagaur

AGRICULTURE DEPARTMENT:

1. District Agriculture Officer, Nagaur
2. District Soil Conservation Officer, Nagaur

APPENDIX I (Concl'd.)

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY DEPARTMENT:

1. District Animal Husbandry Officer, Nagaur
2. Officer-in-charge, Cattle Breeding Farm, Nagaur

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT:

1. Public Relation Officer, Nagaur

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT (Buildings and Roads):

1. Assistant Engineer, P.W.D. (B&R), Nagaur
2. Assistant Engineer, P.W.D. (B&R), Didwana

RELIEF DEPARTMENT:

1. Executive Engineer, Relief, Nagaur

COMMERCIAL TAXES DEPARTMENT:

1. Commercial Taxes Officer, Nagaur

CO-OPERATIVE DEPARTMENT:

1. Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Nagaur
2. Additional Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Nagaur

INDUSTRIES DEPARTMENT:

1. Project Officer, Rural Industrialisation Project, Nagaur

RAJASTHAN STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD:

1. Assistant Engineer, R.S.E.B., Nagaur
2. Assistant Engineer, R.S.E.B., Makrana
3. Assistant Engineer, R.S.E.B., Didwana
4. Assistant Engineer, R.S.E.B., Merta
5. Executive Engineer, R.S.E.B., Nagaur

OTHER DEPARTMENTS:

1. District Employment Officer, Nagaur
2. Secretary, District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Nagaur
3. Superintendent, Rajasthan State Chemical Works, Didwana
4. Forest Ranger, Parvatsar
5. Labour Inspector, Nagaur
6. Assistant Engineer, Mines and Geology, Makrana
7. Assistant Engineer, District Agriculture Workshop, Nagaur
8. District Probation and Social Welfare Officer, Nagaur
9. Dy. Collector (Jagir), Nagaur
10. Manager, Rajasthan State Warehousing Corporation, Merta
11. Assistant Engineer, Rajasthan Ground Water Board, Nagaur

APPENDIX II

Central Government Officers in District Nagaur

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1. Income Tax Officer, A-ward, Nagaur.
 2. Income Tax Officer, B-ward, Nagaur.
 3. Telephone Inspector, Nagaur.
 4. D.E.T., Co-axial, Agra Cable Dumps, Nagaur.
 5. Post Master, Head Post Office, Nagaur.
 6. Inspector, Central Excise, Nagaur.
 7. Inspector, Central Excise, Kuchaman City.
 8. District Organiser, National Savings, Nagaur.
 9. Salt Inspector, Didwana
 10. Inspector, Posts and Telegraphs Department, Nagaur.
 11. Inspector, Posts and Telegraphs Department, Didwana.
 12. Inspector, Posts and Telegraphs Department, Merta.
 13. Incharge, Locust Warning outpost, Nagaur.
 14. Incharge, Locust Warning outpost, Didwana.
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CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

LAND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

History of land revenue assessment and management

The district of Nagaur, before its formation in 1949, was a part of the Jodhpur State and therefore, the tenures and methods of assessment of land revenue in this district were the same as those prevalent in that State. The land was divided into¹ (i) *khalsa* or under the direct management of the State and (ii) non-*khalsa*. The non-*khalsa* land was held under several categories of tenures varying according to their origin, the status of the jagirdar or the terms of their assignments by the ruler. They included *bhomichara*, *sasan*, *muafi*, *doli*, *bhom*, *juna-jagir* and *inam* tenures. It is significant that before the formation of the district in 1949, about 70 per cent of the area of the district was held by the jagirdars and the rest was *khalsa*.

The jagirs were granted in lieu of services, or for maintenance of individuals or as charitable and religious endowments. Some of the jagirdars were required to pay to the rulers an annual military cess termed *rekh*, which was supposed to be 8 per cent of the gross rental value of their estates or jagirs and had to supply horsemen or camel *sowars* but which was, in most cases, commuted for cash payments. The jagirdar also paid a stipulated sum to the State on succession to the jagir. The jagir was granted for life time only and on the death of the holder, it became *khalsa* and remained so till the successor was recognised by the ruler and a fresh *patta* issued to him.

Bhomichara estates comprised² only those areas which were held by the jagirdars before the conquest of their territories by the Rathors. Their holders paid a small sum termed as *faujbal* to the ruler without any other obligation. *Sasan* lands were those which were granted in charity to the Brahmans, Charans, Naths, Sadhus etc. and were held rent-free but if the grant was for a portion of a village or specified wells or fields, the tenure was known as *doli* or *dohli*. Only the ruler could grant such tenures. The *bhom* land was granted in lieu of certain services such as protection of village, tracking the criminals,

1. Erskine, K.D., *op.cit.*, pp. 145-149.

2. *ibid.*

escorting money and guarding government officials while on tours etc. The holders of such tenures were known as *bhomias*. Like the *doli* and *sasan*, this tenure, too, could be granted by the ruler alone. The *inam* tenure was held in lieu of services rendered to the State and it lapsed on the failure of the lineal descendants of the original grantee to maintain those services. When the estate of a jagirdar was resumed by the State, a portion of it was granted to him free of rent or tax of any kind to save him from becoming a penniless destitute and in consideration of his previous position. Such a tenure was known as *juna-jagir*. In the Nawa tahsil, a few villages were held mainly by the Rajputs on the tenure known as *nankar* meaning 'working for bread'. The conditions of such tenure were similar to those of the other jagirs except that no cess fee, except the succession fee was levied and no service was required from their holders.

The jagirdars of distinction were styled as *tazimi Sardars* and were graded into classes according to the degree of recognition they received from the ruler-in-durbar.

The *khalsa* lands were the crown lands and their management was the direct responsibility of the State.

Before the introduction of the first regular settlement during the period 1894-96, the land revenue was paid mostly in kind. The *barai* or *lata* system of determining the share of produce between the cultivator and the ruler or the jagirdar as the landholder, was widely prevalent. The produce was collected near the village and duly weighed or measured. The share taken by the landholder varied from one-fifth to one-half in the case of dry and from one-sixth to one-third in that of wet crops. Another system was known as *kunta*, in which the land holder's portion was not actually weighed or measured but was estimated by guess or calculation. A third method, called *kankar kunta*, was also in vogue by which the out-turn was estimated while the crops were still standing and the share was taken either in kind or cash on the basis of this calculation. Other systems were, *mukatta*, a fixed rate per field realised in cash; *dori*, a fixed rate per measured bigha, paid in cash or kind; and *ghugri*, a fixed quantity of grain per well or per field or a quantity equal in amount to the seed sown (*bij ghugri*). Even after the settlement these modes prevailed in the jagir area, but in the *khalsa* area, cash rents only were determined.

Before the introduction of the Marwar Tenancy Act, there were two kinds of tenants, the *bapidars* and the *ghair-bapidars*, the former enjoyed occupancy rights and paid lower rents than the others. The *bapidar* also had certain other privileges such as the timber and grass in

his field belonged to him whenever a new well was sunk, he paid dry rates for ten years if the well was pukka, and for five years if it was *kachcha* and thereafter, the usual wet rates; if he left the village due to famine or other reasons, he was not deprived of his rights if he returned within five years; he could not alienate his land permanently but he could mortgage it. A *ghair bapidar* was merely a tenant-at-will.

First Regular Settlement

The first regular settlement¹ took place in Jodhpur State between 1894 and 1896, originally for ten years, in the *khalsa* villages. It was based on *ryotwari* system, i.e. the State dealt directly with the cultivators. During the settlement operations, fields were surveyed, village maps and records of rights were prepared, soils were classified and assessment rates based on the available data extending over twenty years were fixed. The area was divided into two groups: secure or comparatively secure, which covered irrigated lands; and insecure or solely rain fed, with little certainty about the annual yield. In the former case, i.e. secure lands, assessment was fixed but in the latter, it fluctuated in accordance with the actual out-turn. These two groups were sub-divided into circles on the basis of similar conditions of soil and climate, and available facilities for irrigation, marketing and manure. The basis for the assessment rates was the then prevalent rents in kind with certain cesses or *lags* payable by cultivator to the State. The State demand was fixed as a proportion of these rent-rates. Due consideration was also given in arriving at this demand to (i) the average revenue of the previous ten years, (ii) the revenue obtained when payments in kind were in vogue, (iii) the opinion of the local officers as to the paying capacity of the holding and lastly (iv) the rates proposed by the *Chaudharies* or the headmen of the villages.

The rates of assessment fixed by this settlement for wet land varied from two rupees five annas and six pies or Rs. 2.33 to Rs. 10 (average Rs. 2 annas 10 and pies six or Rs. 2.64) per acre, while those for the dry land ranged between $1\frac{1}{4}$ to $12\frac{1}{2}$ annas (or 8 to 78 paise) and averaged $4\frac{1}{2}$ annas or 28 paise per acre. Besides the land revenue, two cesses—*malba* (for village expenses) and *chaudharbab* (for remuneration to the *chaudharies*), were levied with rates varying between $2\frac{1}{2}$ and $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of the land revenue demand.

Revision Settlements

The first revision of the settlement of the *khalsa* villages² was undertaken between 1922 and 1925. The tahsils of Nagaur and Didwana

1. Erskine, K.D., *op.cit.*, p. 148.

2. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, for various years.

were divided into *swalak*, *sonthal* and *thal* circles, and those of Nawa, Merta and Parvatsar, into light loam, good sandy, sandy and *sewaj* circles. The soil was classified into *Barani*, *Chahl* and *Kankar* and further subdivided into class I, II, III, IV and V according to its fertility. The rates evolved at this revision settlement for the Nagaur, Didwana, Nawa, Merta and Parvatsar tahsils are tabulated in Appendix I.

The second revision of settlement of the *khalsa* villages took place² during 1941-42 although the operations had started in 1938-39. The categorisation of the circles of the tahsils remained unchanged and so were the classifications of the soil. In this revision, the rates of certain categories of soils were enhanced while for others these were decreased, as would be clear from the table of rent-rates given in Appendix II.

The jagir or the non-*khalsa* area was taken up for the settlement operations for the first time in 1943, and the operations were completed by 1946-47. After the settlement cash rents were substituted for rents in kind. The assessment rates as declared in the non-*khalsa* area at this settlement, are given in Appendix III. The following table denotes the date of commencement and date of declaration of rent rates as fixed by the various settlements in the jagir area of the district.

Tahsil	Year of commencement	Year of declaration of rent rates
Didwana	1943-44	1949-50
Nagaur	1944-45	1949-50
Merta	1945-46	1951-52
Nawa	1945-46	1951-52
Parvatsar	1946-47	1951-52

Present system

The present system of land settlement operations and collection of revenue is based on the provisions of the Rajasthan Land Revenue Act, 1956 (Act No. 15 of 1956) and the rules and regulations made thereunder. The Settlement Commissioner for Rajasthan is in charge of all matters relating to settlement, including survey operations and preparation of land records at the time of settlement. The periodic revision and maintenance of land records is the responsibility of the Director of Land Records. The Collector is the Land Records Officer in the district.

When the survey of an area is to be conducted, it is notified in

1. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State* for various years.

the official gazette by the Government. The old unit of measurement (based on chains measuring 132 ft. and 165 ft.) is retained alongwith new units if the previous measurement was according to old units and if the Director of Land Records desires so. All map corrections are carried out on the last survey sheets. Records are prepared denoting : (a) all permanent routes and paths, (b) topographical features, (c) *Khasra* (field book), (d) estate-holders in the area specifying the nature and extent of the interest of each and his co-sharers, (e) persons cultivating or holding or occupying land in the area, specifying the nature and class of the tenure and other relevant particulars, (f) persons holding land free of rent or revenue, (g) boundaries, pillars, (h) rights in wells and tanks, (i) rights in irrigation, if any, from other sources, and (j) census of dead-stock, livestock and population. All these records can be seen by the interested party, free of cost, on application in writing.

The Settlement Officer, who conducts the operations, tours the area and prepares exhaustive notes of general, physical and economic character of the area, of rainfall, changes in population, communications, agricultural labour and wages etc., changes in cultivating tenures, the movement of rents of various classes of tenants etc. He studies thoroughly the existing rent-rates or assessment reports of the area. He then submits proposals to the Settlement Commissioner with regard to (a) changes in assessment circles, (b) changes in soil classification, (c) period of years which would form the basis of produce estimate and (d) commutation prices.

The soil is classified as : irrigated (*Chahi, Nehri or talabi and talabi peta, kachhar, or khatli, barani or barsati or mal*); dry cultivated (*Parat or Banjar, bir*) and dry unculturable (*ghair-mumkin*). Further sub-divisions of these soils may be done according to depth, consistency and productivity. However, the most common class of soil, as far as possible, is taken as class I and other classes are defined in terms of this class.

The Settlement Officer then evolves suitable rent-rate for each class of soil in each assessment group or circle in which the area is divided. In arriving at fair and equitable rent-rates the following points are kept in view : (a) collection from rents and cesses during the twenty years preceding the settlement excluding abnormal years, (b) the average of the prices of agricultural produce prevailing during the same period, (c) the nature of crops grown and average quality of produce, (d) the value of such produce at the average price referred to in (b) above, (e) the expenses of cultivation and the cost to the cultivator of maintaining himself and his family, (f) the area of land kept fallow each year out of each holding, rotation followed and the period of rest, (g) the frequency of

remission, suspensions and short collections, (h) the rent rates of the last settlement, if any, and the share of produce and commutation prices at which such rates were evolved, and (i) the rent-rates, if any, sanctioned for similar classes of soil in the adjoining areas.

Every settlement made under the Rajasthan Land Revenue Act, 1956, is for twenty years. The Government, however, may in exceptional circumstances, increase or reduce the term.

In accordance with the procedure and rules made under the above Act, all the tahsils have been settled in recent years (Appendix IV). Appendix V gives the dates of settlement operations in the *khalsa* and non-*khalsa* areas before and after the formation of this district.

The district is divided into *girdawar* (Inspector) circles and each *girdawar* circle into *Patwar halkas* (or the jurisdictional area of a *patwari*) for the purpose of collection of land revenue, preparation and maintenance of Annual Registers (*jamabandis*) and crop inspections. At the district headquarters, there is a *Sadar Qanungo* or the Chief Land Records Inspector to supervise and inspect the work of the *girdawars*, *qanungos*, or the Land Records Inspectors, and the *patwaris*. He is also incharge of the Land Records Section in the Collectorate and is assisted in his work by one assistant, one clerk, four *patwaris* and three peons. There are 29 *girdawar* circles in the district, divided into 325 *patwar halkas*. Their tahsil wise distribution¹ is given below, and their names are given in Appendix VI.

Tahsil	No. of <i>patwar</i> circles	No. of <i>patwaris</i>	No. of <i>girdawar</i> circles
Nagaur	64	71	6
Jayal	32	36	3
Merta	46	51	4
Degana	43	48	4
Parvatsar	54	61	4
Nawa	31	39	3
Didwana	33	38	3
Ladnun	22	26	2
TOTAL	325	370	29

Each *girdawar* circle is headed by one *girdawar* and at each tahsil headquarter, there is one office *Qanungo*.

1. Source : Office of the Collector, Nagaur

The demand and collection of land revenue, from the district, in recent years, are given in the following table¹ :

(Rs. in lakhs)				
Year	Demand (arrears & current)	Collection during the year	Remission/ suspension during the year	Balance at the end of the year
1957-58	87.58	37.30	—	50.28
1958-59	101.15	50.61	—	50.54
1959-60	107.83	51.30	45.05	11.48
1960-61	113.33	40.80	—	72.53
1961-62	117.85	69.01	40.23	8.61
1962-63	112.33	69.49	40.10	2.74
1964-65	138.23	75.99	49.45	12.79
1965-66	138.23	75.99	13.79	48.45
1966-67	128.32	39.27	66.13	22.92
1967-68	146.54	89.70	15.93	40.91
1968-69 ²	146.94	89.70	26.18	31.00

LAND REFORMS

The various land tenures in the jagir area have been described above. A brief reference has also been made to the cultivating tenants such as *Bapidars* and *Ghair-Bapidars* and their rights and privileges. The Marwar Tenancy Act (1949) and the Marwar Land Revenue Act (1949) consolidated and defined the various tenures³. They were termed as *Khatedar*, *Ghair Khatedar*, *Bapidar*, *Ghair Bapidar* and *Sikmi Kashtkar*.

A *khatedar* was one who held the land of another person and by whom the rent was or would be payable but did not include a rent free grantee; every tenant other than a sub-tenant who was not a *khatedar*, was termed as *Ghair-Khatedar*. These tenures were in jagir area. In *khalsa* area, the counter-part of *khatedar* was *Bapidar* while tenants-at-will were termed as *Ghair-Bapidar*. The *khatedars* and *Bapidars* could transfer their holdings permanently by sale or otherwise to any co-tenant or to a person who if he survived the tenants without heirs, would inherit his rights. The *Khatedars* and *Bapidars* could not sublet the whole or any portion of their holding for a term exceeding three years. They were entitled to all grass and natural produce growing in their holdings for their own agricultural and domestic purposes but could not sell or other-

wise transfer a tree or any portion of any timber or convert the timber

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, for various years.

2. Provisional.

3. *The Marwar Land Revenue Manual*, Jodhpur (1949), pp. 2, 3, 8, 10 & 20.

into an article intended for sale or dispose it of to others. The *Ghair-Khatedars* could not sublet their holdings or any portion of it, for a term exceeding one year. They were entitled to take the natural produce and grass of their holdings but were not entitled to cut any tree or a part of it. A *Khatedar* could make any improvement in his holding except in certain cases specifically mentioned in the rules but a *Ghair-Khatedar* was not allowed to effect any improvement without the written consent of his landlord. *Ghair-Bapidars* were those who held the land for a limited period or on year to year basis. The rights of a *Ghair-Bapidar* were heritable in the same manner as those of a *Bapidar* but not transferable in any manner.

Sub-tenancy also existed and the holders were known as *Sikmi-Kashikars*. They held land for cultivation from a recognised tenant. In jagir land, there was a class of tenants called *pasaikdars* who were service tenures holders and were exempt from paying rent as long as they rendered service.

Since the formation of Rajasthan, several laws have been enacted to ameliorate the conditions of cultivators. Progressive measures were introduced in the form of ordinances as early as 1949, but were later repealed when the relevant Acts were enacted by the State legislature. In order to guard tenants against arbitrary ejectment, the Rajasthan Protection of Tenants Ordinance was promulgated in 1949. The Rajasthan Removal of Trees (Regulation) Ordinance, 1949 also was introduced in the same year. Both were repealed by the Rajasthan Tenancy Act (No. 3 of 1955) 1955. This latter Act itself has had several amendments. This Act has by far, resulted in the most progressive reforms in this field. The other important enactments are: Rajasthan Land Reforms and Resumption of Jagirs Act 1952, Rajasthan Agricultural Land Utilisation Act 1954, Rajasthan Agricultural Loan Act 1956, Rajasthan Land Revenue Act 1956, and the Discontinuance of Cesses Act 1959.

The Rajasthan Land Reforms and Resumption of Jagirs Act, 1952 provides for the resumption of jagir lands, their assessment to land revenue, grant of *khatedari* rights to tenants in jagir land and payment of compensation for the resumed jagir lands. Till March 1970, a total of 27,075 jagirs were turned into *khalsa*. 22,977 cases filed by the jagirdars for compensation were finalised till March 1970 while a sum of Rs. 2,36,95,500 was paid as compensation against 19,263 cases. Besides this, 3,534 religious jagirs were converted into *khalsa* land and a sum of Rs. 3,20,705 was paid as compensation against 3,322 cases. The Rajasthan Land Revenue Act 1956 defines the powers and duties of revenue courts and revenue officers, lays down the procedure for survey, preparation and

maintenance of land records for settlement of land and collection of land revenue. The Land Utilisation Act, 1954 which came into force in 1958 provides for the utilisation of uncultivated agricultural lands and for regulating the cultivation of specified crops. The Agricultural Loan Act consolidates and amends laws relating to lending of money by the State Government for agricultural purposes. This also lists the various items for which loans may be granted and the terms and conditions thereof. By the Rajasthan Discontinuance of Cesses Act 1959, with certain exceptions various cesses which were being collected in addition to rents on agricultural holdings were discontinued.

Ceiling on Land Holdings

The Rajasthan Tenancy (sixth Amendment) Bill, 1959 stipulates the maximum limit of area of land which a family of five persons can possess. Surplus land with the family, if any, will have to be surrendered to the Government. However, the law has not been implemented so far, though steps are underway to enforce its provisions in the district.

Consolidation of Land Holdings

The Rajasthan Holdings (Consolidation and Prevention of fragmentation) Act aims at bringing together the scattered agricultural holdings of a tenant at one place in a compact block, thereby facilitating agricultural operations and increasing productivity. In this district however, the work of consolidation has not been taken up yet.

Rajasthan Bhoodan Yagna Act, 1954

The Rajasthan Bhoodan Yagna Board¹ was created under the Rajasthan Bhoodan Yagna Act (1954). Voluntary gifts of land can be made to this body for distribution to the landless or needy persons. The headquarters of the Board are at Jaipur. Till 1970-71, a total of 25,287 acres of land was donated by 1,863 donors, of which 7,812 acres of land was distributed among 543 families. Likewise, 120 villages have been donated in the district but only seven have been declared so far where the *gram sabhas* have been set up.

Revenue Cases

The revenue cases dealt with in recent years by various revenue courts in the district are tabulated as follows²:

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1. Source : Office of the Secretary, Rajasthan Bhoodan Yagna Board, Jaipur.
 2. Source : Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan, Jodhpur.

Year	Previous balance	Instituted during the year	Total	Disposed of during the year	Balance
1959-60	3,158	6,092	9,250	5,654	3,596
1960-61	3,596	4,933	8,529	4,635	3,894
1961-62	3,894	8,600	12,494	8,473	4,021
1962-63	4,021	14,257	18,278	12,573	5,705
1963-64	5,705	11,220	16,925	9,678	7,247
1964-65	7,247	11,994	19,241	10,025	9,216
1965-66	9,216	13,996	23,212	15,761	7,451
1966-67	7,451	11,998	19,449	11,975	7,474
1967-68	7,474	11,878	19,352	11,295	8,057
1968-69	8,057	11,783	19,840	11,593	8,247
1969-70	8,247	22,824	31,071	22,817	8,254

AGRICULTURAL LABOURERS—According to the 1961 Census¹, the district had 14,408 agricultural labourers of whom 7,096 were females. There are different rates of wages² for different agricultural operations. For example, for ploughing a child is paid @ Rs. 1.50 per day while a woman labourer gets Rs. 2.00 and a man labourer between Rs. 2.50 and Rs. 3.00. For harvesting, the rates are: child Rs. 1.00 to 1.50; woman Rs. 2.00; man Rs. 2.50 to 3.00; winnowing and other operations: child Re. 1.00, woman Rs. 1.50 and man Rs. 2.00. The condition of the agricultural labourers was reported to be satisfactory.

ADMINISTRATION OF OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE

During the princely rule when this area formed a part of Jodhpur State, the main heads³ of the State income, besides the land revenue and the various cesses such as *kharda*, *ghasmari*, *lag bag*, etc. which were realised with it, consisted of excise and salt, customs, stamps and registration, tribute from the jagirdars, mines and industries, forest and arboriculture and grass, farms, prisons, electricity, public works, treaty obligations, railways, interest on State securities and *patta*, fees on the sale of plots and land. At present, the main sources from which income is derived in the district are given below:

STATE TAXES

EXCISE AND COMMERCIAL TAXES—Before 1964, the Excise and

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook-Nagaur district* (1966), p. 96.
2. Source : Office of the Tahsildars of various tahsils.
3. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State for 1943-44*, Jodhpur (1946), pp. 23 & 156.

Taxation Department was responsible for the realisation of excise, entertainment tax, sales tax, passenger and goods tax, etc. But in that year the department was bifurcated into (i) excise and (ii) commercial taxes and the latter was entrusted with the assessment and collection of sales tax, passenger and goods tax, electricity duty and entertainment tax.

Excise duty is levied by the State Government under the Rajasthan Excise Act 1950 on country spirit, Indian made foreign spirit, imported spirit, wine, imported beer, Indian beer, opium, poppy heads and *bhang*. In this district a District Excise Officer, who also had jurisdiction over Pali district, used to supervise the collection and prevent the evasion of excise till 1966-67 when this office was abolished. In August 1967, the office of the Assistant Excise Officer, with headquarters at Nagaur, was created¹. The jurisdiction of this officer is limited to Nagaur district only. He is assisted in his work by five Inspectors, four of whom are posted at the circle offices at Merta Road, Nagaur, Didwana and Nawa and the fifth is stationed at the headquarters (Nagaur). He also looks after the prosecution of offenders against excise law. The other staff consists of three clerks, four *moharrirs* and 15 class IV employees. The office falls within the administrative range of District Excise Officer, Bikaner.

The work² of assessment and collection of commercial taxes in the district is looked after by the office of the Commercial Taxes Officer headquartered at Nagaur. For administrative convenience the district is divided into three wards, and each ward is placed under an Assistant Commercial Taxes Officer. The Nagaur ward has jurisdiction over three tahsils namely, Nagaur, Jayal and Parvatsar, the Didwana ward has jurisdiction over Ladnun, Nawa and Didwana tahsils, while the remaining two tahsils, namely, Merta and Degana come under the Merta ward. Other staff include four inspectors, 27 clerks and 18 class IV employees. The ward-wise distribution of the staff is as under:

Ward	Assistant Commercial Taxes Officers	Inspectors	Clerks	(Number)
				Class IV
'A' Nagaur	1	1	3	1
'B' Merta	1	1	3	3
'C' Didwana	1	1	2	2
Check post				
Makrana	—	1	2	3

1. Source: Office of the Assistant Excise Officer, Nagaur.

2. Source: Office of the Commercial Taxes Officer, Nagaur.

The staff of the office of the Commercial Taxes Officer consists of 17 clerks, 9 class IV employees including a driver.

The passenger and goods tax introduced in the district in 1959, is charged from the passengers travelling in the public transport vehicles and is also levied on the goods transported by public goods carriers. The staff of the department, therefore, is authorised to check all the public motor vehicles carrying passengers and goods to plug evasion of the tax. The rates of the tax, which is charged on the value of the fare or freight, depend on the types of the roads on which the vehicles ply. For auto-rickshaws and other three wheelers, this is charged in a lump sum. The public transport vehicles are taxed according to their loading capacity and the area of their operation.

Sales tax which was introduced in the district in 1955, is levied on certain specified articles at a rate fixed by the government from time to time. The articles specified in the list are of multitudinous variety, from gold and silver bullion to cereals and pulses, and the rates of tax on them also vary largely.

The entertainment tax, introduced in the district in 1957, is levied on all entertainments provided for the public unless they are exempted by the Government under specified orders. It is levied on the value of the ticket for admission to the entertainment shows. This is further enhanced according to the capacity of the hall or the theatre and its upper limit is regulated in proportion to the local population.

The revenue collected by these two departments, Excise and Commercial Taxes, during the last few years is as under¹ :

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Entertainment tax	Rajasthan Passenger & Goods tax	Sales tax	Excise
1956-57	—	—	797*	586
1957-58	—	—	846*	615
1958-59	—	—	624*	680
1959-60	—	—	640	805
1960-61	—	—	719	709
1961-62	—	—	870	804
1962-63	—	—	1326	1053
1963-64	44	461	1943	1082

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, for various years.

* Includes customs revenue also.

1	2	3	4	5
1964-65	77	517	2267	1414
1965-66	85	550	2888	Not reported
1966-67	81	766	3483	2149
1967-68	102	811	4004	2151
1968-69	102	840	4230	2002
1969-70	96	968	4465	1381

Registration

The work of registration of vehicles and the registration of documents is performed by the Collector in the district and a fee is charged on this account. The staff consists of a sub-inspector and a clerk. The statistics relating to the number of vehicles and documents registered and the revenue derived therefrom are given below¹:

Year	No. of vehicles registered	Income from registration fee in rupees	No. of documents registered	Income from registration fee in rupees
1960-61	25	187	2,412	31,521
1961-62	5	48	2,668	33,812
1962-63	34	329	2,778	34,513
1963-64	49	114	3,306	42,144
1964-65	13	268	3,020	42,791
1965-66	75	184	3,364	55,767
1966-67	47	354	4,676	77,735
1967-68	44	423	5,003	94,798
1968-69	55	261	5,731	1,10,442

Stamps

The judicial and non-judicial stamps are issued by the Treasury Officer and the Sub-Treasury Officers to the stamp vendors for sale in the district. There are nine stamp vendors of whom two are at Merta and of the rest, one at each of the treasury/sub-treasuries. They are given a commission at the rate of 1.55 per cent for the judicial stamps but in case of the non-judicial stamps, the rates vary, being 3.10 per cent, 4.70 per cent, and 6.25 per cent at the district, sub-divisional and tahsil headquarters respectively.

The revenue earned through this source during the last few years is tabulated as follow:

1. Source: Office of the District Collector, Nagaur.

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Non-judicial stamps	Judicial stamps
1953-54	80	166
1954-55	69	167
1955-56	65	230
1956-57	77	166
1957-58	188	186
1958-59	101	168
1959-60	122	168
1960-61	182	206
1961-62	175	168
1962-63	173	190
1963-64	200	187
1964-65	246	188
1965-66	276	209
1966-67	344	213
1967-68	449	246
1968-69	454	204
1969-70	465	192

CENTRAL TAXES

Income Tax

Income Tax Office was created¹ for the first time in the district in May 1966 with headquarters at Nagaur. After a year, in 1967, one more Income Tax Officer was posted at Nagaur and for administrative convenience the district was divided into two wards-A and B. Both the officers are responsible for assessment and collection of tax on income and wealth of, and gifts made by an individual, Hindu undivided families, registered and unregistered firms, association of persons, co-operative societies, local bodies and corporations other than companies. They are assisted in the collection of these taxes by an Inspector and two notice servers. The ministerial staff consists of a head clerk, nine clerks, two stenographers and three peons (1968-69). The number of assessments made and the revenue earned by the department since 1966-67 are given below² :

	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69
1. No. of cases disposed of			
(i) Income Tax	2,008	4,161	3,205
(ii) Wealth Tax	6	129	53

1. Source : Office of the Income Tax Officer, Nagaur.

2. *ibid.*

1	2	3	4
(iii) Gift Tax	15	12	23
2. Revenue earned (Rs. in '000)			
(i) Income Tax	506	1,228	1,352
(ii) Wealth Tax	12	74	51
(iii) Gift Tax	3	9	5

Central Excise¹

The district falls within the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Central Excise, Bikaner Range, headquartered at Bikaner. Two Inspectors, one posted at Nagaur and the other at Kuchaman City look after the work of collection and prevention of leakage of excise revenue in the district. The tahsils of Nagaur, Degan, Merta and Jayal are included in the jurisdiction of the Inspector stationed at Nagaur while the work in the remaining four tahsils of the district is entrusted to the Inspector headquartered at Kuchaman City. The revenue² derived from this source for the last ten years is given below:

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Name of commodity							
	Tobacco warehouses	Tobacco cultivation	Vegetable non-essential oils	Copper & copper alloys	Wireless receiving sets	Asbestos cement products	Aluminium	Zinc
1960-61	115	7	46	—	—	—	—	—
1961-62	121	15	32	49	—	—	—	—
1962-63	159	10	27	51	—	—	—	—
1963-64	147	15	—	43	0.18	—	—	—
1964-65	155	3	—	41	0.18	—	—	—
1965-66	144	13	—	48	0.05	1	—	—
1966-67	108	2	—	42	0.07	4	8	0.68
1967-68	133	1	—	7	—	18	0.64	—
1968-69	128	8	—	—	0.02	22	—	—
1969-70	89	3	—	—	—	27	—	—

Others

The other sources of central revenue in the district include posts and telegraph, telephone, railways etc. but the details of income derived from this source are not maintained district-wise.

1. Source : Offices of the Inspectors, Central Excise, Nagaur and Kuchaman.

2. This does not include revenue collection from Kuchaman sector.

Income and Expenditure

The District Treasury Officer has recorded¹ the receipts and the disbursements made on account of the State and the Central Governments transacted through his office for the district. These are as under:

(Rs. in lakhs)

Year	Receipts		Expenditure	
	State	Central	State	Central
1965-66	309	22	319	168
1966-67	372	16	396	15
1967-68	406	31	388	12
1968-69	328	38	483	7
1969-70	1,463	140	2,286	43

1. Source: District Treasury, Nagaur.

APPENDIX I

Rates of revenue fixed for the villages according to the soil classification during the first revision settlement (1922-25 A.D.)

(Rs. Annas & Pies)

Name of soil	Tahsils			Tahsils			
	Nagaur and Didwana			Nawa, Meita & Parvatsar			
	Swalak circle	Sonthal circle	Thal	Light Loam	Good sandy	Sandy	Sewaj
B.A.M	1/8/-	—	—	1/-	—	-/12/-	1/-
B.A.	1/6/-	—	—	—	—	—	—
B.I.M.	1/2/-	—	—	-/12/-	-/12/-	-/11/-	-/14/-
B.I.M.	-/14/-	—	—	-/8/-	-/7/-	-/6/-	-/12/-
B.I	-/14/-	-/6/-	-/3/6	—	—	—	—
B.II	-/9/-	-/5/-	-/2/6	-/6/-	-/5/-	-/3/6	-/10/-
B.III	-/5/-	—	—	—	—	—	—
B.IV	-/3/6	—	—	—	—	—	—
CH.AA	—	—	—	5/6	5/8	5/8	5/8
CH.I	2/12/-	2/12/-	2/12/-	3/12	3/12	3/12/-	3/12/-
CH II	2/4/-	2/4/-	2/4/-	3/-	3/-	3/-	3/-
CH.III	1/12/-	1/12/-	1/12/-	2/4/-	2/4/-	2/4/-	2/4/-
CH.IV	1/4/-	1/4/-	1/4/-	1/12/-	1/12/-	1/12/-	1/12/-
CH.V	1/-	1/-	1/-	1/2/-	1/2/-	1/2/-	1/2/-
K.A.	—	—	—	3/4/-	—	—	—
K.II	—	—	—	2/6/-	—	—	—
K.III	—	—	—	1/10/-	—	—	—

B=Barani; CH= Chahi, K— Kankar.

APPENDIX II (Concl.)

Merta & Degana tahsils				Didwana & Ladnun tahsils			
Class	Circle Rates			Class	Circle rates		
	Sevaj	Light loam	Good sandy		Southal	Thal	
12	13	14	15	16	17	18	
Ch A	4/-	4/-	4/-	Ch I	2/8/-	2/8/-	
Ch I	3/4/-	3/4/-	3/4/-	Ch II	2/-	2/-	
Ch II	2/10/-	2/10/-	2/10/-	Ch III	1/8/-	1/8/-	
Ch III	2/-	2/-	2/-	Ch IV	1/2/-	1/2/-	
Ch IV	1/8/-	1/8/-	1/8/-	Ch V	-1/4/-	-1/4/-	
Ch V	1/-	1/-	1/-	BI	-6/6	-4/-	
BA	1/-	1/-	—	BII	-5/-	-3/-	
BI	-1/4/-	-1/2/-	-1/2/-				
BII	-1/10/-	-6/-	-5/-				
BIII	-6/-	—	—				
BIV	-4/-	—	—				

Source : Office of the Settlement Officer, Jodhpur.

APPENDIX III

Rates of revenue fixed for the non-*khalisa* villages according to soil classification (1946-47 & 1948-49)

Class	Nagaur & Jayal tahsils			Nawa tahsil			Parvatsar tahsil			
	Circle Rates		Thal	Circle Rates		Sonthal	Circle Rates		Sandy	
	Swalak	Sonthal		Class	Sevaj		Class	Light loam		Good sandy
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Ch A	5/-/-	—	—	Ch I+	6/12/-	5/10/-	Ch I	4/12/-	4/12/-	4/12/-
Ch I+	4/-/-	—	—	Ch I	6/-/-	5/-/-	Ch II	3/14/-	3/14/-	3/14/-
Ch I	4/-/-	—	—	Ch I-	5/10/-	4/11/-	Ch III	3/-/-	3/-/-	3/-/-
Ch I-	3/12/-	—	—	Ch II+	5/4/-	4/6/-	Ch IV	2/8/-	2/8/-	2/8/-
Ch II+	3/8/-	—	—	Ch II	4/14/-	4/11/-	Ch V	1/12/-	1/12/-	1/12/-
Ch II	3/2/-	—	—	Ch II-	4/8/-	3/12/-	BI	-/14/-	-/12/-	-/10/-
Ch III	2/8/-	—	—	Ch III+	4/12/-	3/2/-	BII	-/10/-	-/9/-	-/7/-
Ch IV	1/8/-	—	—	Ch III	3/12/-	3/2/-	—	—	—	—
Ch V	1/-/-	—	—	Ch III-	3/7/-	2/14/-	—	—	—	—
Dry area	—	—	—	Ch V+	3/4/-	2/11/-	—	—	—	—
Ch A to II	1/-/-	—	—	Ch IV	3/-/-	2/8/-	—	—	—	—
Ch III to IV	1/-/-	—	—	Ch IV-	2/11/-	2/4/-	—	—	—	—
Fallow	-/2/-	—	—	Ch V+	2/8/-	2/1/-	—	—	—	—
BA	1/10/-	—	—	Ch V	2/4/-	1/14/-	—	—	—	—
BI+	1/8/-	—	—	Ch V-	2/-/6	1/11/-	—	—	—	—
BI+	1/6/-	-/12/6	-/8/-	Dry area	—	—	—	—	—	—
BI	1/2/-	-/11/-	-/7/-	Ch I to III	1/8/-	1/8/-	—	—	—	—
BI-	1/1/-	-/10/3	-/6/6	Ch IV to V	1/-/-	1/-/-	—	—	—	—

APPENDIX III (Contd.)

Nagaour & Jayal Circle Rates				Nawa tahsil Circle Rates			
Class	Swalak	Sonthal	Thal	Class	Sonthal	Sevaj	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
BII+	1/-	-9/6	-6/-	Fallow	-2/-	-2/-	-
BII	-15/-	-8/-	-5/6	BI+	1/-	-13/6	-
BII-	-14/-	-7/3	-5/-	BI	-14/-	-12/-	-
BIII+	-13/-	-	-	BI-	-13/-	-11/3	-
BIII	-11/6	-	-	BII+	-12/3	-10/6	-
BIII-	-10/6	-	-	BII	-10/6	-9/-	-
BIV+	-9/6	-	-	BII-	-8/9	-7/6	-
BIV	-7/6	-	-	-	-	-	-
BIV-	-6/6	-	-	-	-	-	-

APPENDIX III (Concl'd.)

Class	Merta & Degana tahsils			Didwana & Ladnun tahsils		
	Circle Rates			Circle Rates		
	Sevaj	Light loam	Good sandy	Class	Sonthal	Thal
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Ch I	4/4/-	4/12/-	4/8/-	Ch I	4/-/-	4/-/-
Ch II	3/8/-	3/4/-	3/12/-	Ch II	3/2/-	3/2/-
Ch III	2/10/-	3/-/-	2/12/-	Ch III	2/8/-	2/8/-
Ch IV	2/2/-	2/8/-	2/4/-	Ch IV	1/8/-	1/8/-
Ch V	1/10/-	1/12/-	1/12/-	Ch V	1/-/-	1/-/-
Dry area	1/8/-	1/8/-	1/8/-	BA	-/15/-	—
Ch I to II						
Dry area	1/-/-	1/-/-	1/-/-	BI+	-/12/-	-/10/-
Ch III to V						
Fallow						
BI	-/2/-	-/2/-	-/2/-	BI	-/11/6	-/8/6
BII	1/4/-	-/14/-	-/12/-	BI-	-/10/6	-/7/6
BIII	-/15/-	-/10/-	-/9/-	BII+	-/9/6	-/6/6
BIV	-/11/-	—	—	BII	-/8/-	-/6/-
	-/6/-	—	—	BII-	-/7/-	-/5/6

Source : Office of the Settlement Officer, Jodhpur.

APPENDIX IV

Rates of revenue fixed for tahsil Nagaur, Jayal, Ladnun, Didwana villages according to the soil classification during the revision settlement

S. No.	Nagaur & Jayal tahsils				Ladnun & Didwana tahsils			
	Class	Circle		rate per bigha	Class	Circle		rate per bigha
		Swalak	Sonthal			Sonthal	Thal	
1.	Ch. A	3.50	—	—	Ch. I	3.00	2.25	
2.	Ch. I	3.00	1.90	—	Ch. II	2.40	1.80	
3.	Ch. II	2.50	1.35	—	Ch. III	1.80	—	
4.	Ch. III	1.90	1.05	—	Dry area	0.75	0.55	
5.	Ch. IV	1.35	—	—	Fallow	0.15	0.12	
6.	Dry area							
	Ch. A to							
	Ch. II	0.95	0.50	—	B. A.	0.75	0.55	
7.	Dry area							
	Ch. III to							
	Ch. IV	0.70	0.40	—	B. I.	0.60	0.45	
8.	Fallow	0.20	0.12	—	B. II	0.35	0.30	
9.	B. A.	1.40	—	—				
10.	B. I	0.95	0.50	0.30	Term of settlement for 20 years commencing from 1.7.1965			
11.	B. II	0.70	0.40	0.25				
12.	B. III	0.50	—	—				
13.	B. IV	0.30	—	—				
	Term of settlement for 20 years commencing Samvat 2019 to Samvat 2039.							

Source : Office of the Settlement Officer, Jodhpur.

APPENDIX V

Details of settlement operations carried out in the district

Name of the tahsil	Dates of settlement operation carried out before the formation of the present district (years)	Dates of settlement operations carried out after the formation of the district	Date of commencement and completion of the operation
Nagaur (<i>khalsa</i>)	1891-95;1920-21;1941-42	I Revision Settlement	7.11.57 8.4.1965
„ (<i>Jagir</i>)	1948-49;1949-50	In <i>Samvat</i> 2020 for 20 years Revision Settlement	
Jayal (<i>khalsa</i>)	1891-95;1920-21;1941-42	I Revision Settlement from 1.7.1956 for 20 years	7.11.57 8.4.1965
„ (<i>Jagir</i>)	1948-49	-do-	
Didwana (<i>khalsa</i>)	1891-95;1920-21;1941-42	I Revision Settlement	7.11.57 21.12.1957
„ (<i>Jagir</i>)	1948-49 Ist time	From 1.7.56 for 20 years Revision Settlement	
Ladnun (<i>khalsa</i>)	1891-85;1920-21;1941-42	I Revision Settlement	7.11.57 21.12.1957
„ (<i>Jagir</i>)	1948-49 Ist time	From 1.7.56 for 20 years Revision Settlement	
Merta (<i>khalsa</i>)	1895-1900;1921-25;1940-42	In <i>Samvat</i> 2008 i.e. 1951 for 20 years	1.8.45 4.4.1957
„ (<i>Jagir</i>)	—	—	
Degana (<i>khalsa</i>)	1895-1900;1921-25;1940-42	In <i>Samvat</i> 2008 i.e. 1951 for 20 years	1.8.45 4.4.1967
„ (<i>Jagir</i>)	—	—	
Parvatsar (<i>khalsa</i>)	1895;1920-21;1941-42	In <i>Samvat</i> 2008 for 20 years	Jan. 1947 12.12.1953
„ (<i>Jagir</i>)	—	—	
Nawa (<i>khalsa</i>)	1895;1920-21;1941-42	In <i>Samvat</i> 2008 for 20 years	1.11.46 20.2.1958
„ (<i>Jagir</i>)	—	—	

Source : Office of the Settlement Officer, Jodhpur

APPENDIX VI

Girdawar (Inspector) and Patwar Circles of Nagaur District as on
31st March 1970

Name of tahsil	Name of Girdawar (Inspector) Circle	Name of Patwar Circle
1	2	3
Nagaur	1. Sankhwas	1. Barangaon 2. Kharnal 3. Deru 4. Seelgaon 5. Mundiyyar 6. Manakpur 7. Sankhwas 8. Gwalu 9. Diyawadi 10. Asawari 11. Roon
	2. Mundwa	1. Phirod 2. Indana 3. Mundwa 4. Thirod 5. Karlu 6. Jujanda 7. Jannana 8. Palri- Jodha 9. Gothra 10. Khajwana 11. Kuchera
	3. Alay	1. Bhagu 2. Satheran 3. Rohina 4. Shyamsar 5. Chau 6. Ganthilasar 7. Alay 8. Kalri 9. Singar 10. Gogelao
	4. Kheenwsar	1. Khatora 2. Birlonka 3. Panchla Sidha 4. Achina 5. Kantiya 6. Berathal Kalan 7. Kheenwsar 8. Jorawarpura 9. Bhawanda 10. Nagri 11. Kurchi
	5. Nagaur	1. Jodhiyasi 2. Jhadisar 3. Bhadana 4. Gagwana 5. Chenar 6. Nagaur 7. Tadsar 8. Kumari 9. Chuntisara 10. Dalwa
	6. Guda	
	Bhagwandas	1. Karnu (A) 2. Karnu (B) 3. Tantwas 4. Pachori 5. Deu 6. Madpura 7. Bhundel 8. Guda Bhagwandas 9. Bher 10. Ramdhnu 11. Sinod
Jayal	1. Deh	1. Anwāliyasar 2. Deh 3. Kameriya 4. Akora 5. Surpaliya 6. Jhareli 7. Chhapra 8. Somra 9. Gugriyali 10. Rotoo 11. Dugoli
	2. Rol	1. Rol 2. Deedya Kalan 3. Borwa 4. Lunsara 5. Geloli 6. Matasukh 7. Phardod 8. Bugarda 9. Dugastau 10. Manglod 11. Rajod
	3. Jayal	1. Jayal 2. Khinyala 3. Nokha Jodha 4. Kathoti 5. Barnel 6. Khatu Kalan 7. Chhajoli 8. Tarnau 9. Rohina 10. Dotina

APPENDIX VI (Contd.)

1	2	3
Merta	1. Merta	1. Merta 2. Ren 3. Sogawas 4. Khedul 5. Datani 6. Jaroda Kalan 7. Dangawas 8. Netreya 9. Lampolai 10. Arniyala 11. Bagar 12. Morra 13. Dhadhelas
	2. Jasnagar	1. Jasnagar 2. Indawar 3. Gagrana 4. Poondlu 5. Kurdayan 6. Bargaon 7. Jaswantabad 8. Khakarki 9. Katiyasani 10. Liliyan
	3. Riyan Bari	1. Riyan Bari 2. Medas 3. Rohisa 4. Jhintiya 5. Barayli 6. Bhawal Mertiyani 7. Padu Khurd 8. Padu Kalan 9. Gawardi 10. Beejathal
	4. Gotan	1. Gathiya 2. Mokala 3. Kalru 4. Lamba Jata 5. Gotan 6. Riyan Shyamdas 7. Chhapri Khurd 8. Harsolao 9. Nokha 10. Dhawa 11. Oladan 12. Merta Road (Phalodi) 13. Dholerao Khurd
Degana	1. Thanwla	1. Sathana Khurd 2. Alniyawas 3. Ladpura 4. Kod 5. Bari Ghati 6. Thanwla 7. Dodiya 8. Sudwar 9. Nimbola Biswa 10. Modi Kalan
	2. Harsor	1. Paliyawas 2. Mewra 3. Bikhraniya Kalan 4. Palri Kalan 5. Mandal Jodha 6. Pundlota 7. Nimbri Kalan 8. Thata 9. Harsor 10. Modi Kalan
	3. Khuri Kalan	1. Nimbari Chandawatan 2. Butati 3. Rajod 4. Akeli 5. Choliyas 6. Nimbola Kalan 7. Antroli 8. Barna 9. Khekha 10. Khuri Kalan
	4. Degana	1. Sirasna 2. Idwa 3. Bawarla 4. Degana 5. Kitalsar 6. Chandarun 7. Langod 8. Jalsu Khurd 9. Jalsu Nanak 10. Sanju 11. Chui 12. Sanju 13. Chosli
Parvatsar	1. Parvatsar	1. Kurada 2. Jawla 3. Gular 4. Chitai 5. Janjila 6. Badoo 7. Bhadwa 8. Rohandi 9. Peeplad 10. Parvatsar 11. Gangwa 12. Manglana 13. Bidiyad

APPENDIX VI (Contd.)

1	2	3
	2. Makrana	1. Menana 2. Kalwa 3. Sabalpur 4. Biloo 5. Borawad 6. Makrana 7. Jakhli 8. Joosri 9. Boodsu 10. Kacholiya 11. Nandoli Chandawatan 12. Chandi 13. Tosina 14. Dhandharwan
	3. Peelwa	1. Bhakri Molas 2. Rid 3. Kundri 4. Peeh 5. Bensed 6. Banwal 7. Bhanvsiya 8. Dhad- hota 9. Rabdiya 10. Jhalra 11. Bagot 12. Peelwa
	4. Gachhipura	1. Gachhipura 2. Ranigaon 3. Khardiya 4. Sarnawada 5. Bhaiya Kalan 6. Bajoli 7. Altawa 8. Kheri Seela 9. Dhokliya 10. Itawa Lakha 11. Besroli 12. Ceda Kalan 13. Ramsiya 14. Dobdi Kalan 15. Indokha
Nawa	1. Nawa	1. Nawa 2. Palara 3. Mithri 4. Mandawara 5. Sargoth Padampura 6. Khardiya 7. Gudhasalt 8. Loonwa 9. Bhagwanpura 10. Panchota
	2. Maroth	1. Panchwa 2. Kukanwali 3. Shambhoo- pura 4. Shyamgarh 5. Muwana 6. Rajliya 7. Nagwara 8. Bhanwata with Kerpura 9. Indokha 10. Maroth 11. Deoli 12. Minda
	3. Kuchaman	1. Rasal 2. Kuchaman 3. Chitawa 4. Roop- pura Torda 5. Sabalpura with Mangalpura 6. Todas 7. Lalas 8. Ghatwa 9. Jiliya
Didwana	1. Didwana	1. Didwana 2. Baliya Bas 3. Supka 4. Lala- sari 5. Mawa 6. Cholun Khan 7. Daulat- pura 8. Singhana 9. Kanwai 10. Kaprod 11. Palot
	2. Khunkhuna	1. Khatu Khurd 2. Khuri 3. Peedwa 4. Tosina 5. Thebri 6. Kharesh 7. Khun- khuna 8. Agunta 9. Dabgaon 10. Kairap 11. Koliya
	3. Molasar	1. Molasar 2. Barangna 3. Begsar 4. Akoda 5. Alakhpura 6. Nimbod 7. Dhankoli 8. Nawa 9. Dabra 10. Khakholi 11. Dindar- pura

APPENDIX VI (Concl'd.)

1	2	3
Ladnun	1. Ladnūn	1. Ladnun 2. Jaswāntgarh 3. Sardi 4. Girdoda Meetha 5. Dhyawa 6. Rodoo 7. Mithri 8. Reengan 9. Lachhri 10. Ledy 11. Tanwara 12. Bankliya
	2. Nimbi Jodha	1. Nimbi Jodha 2. Hudas 3. Silanwad 4. Khamiyad 5. Ratau 6. Baldu 7. Odit 8. Sunari 9. Sanwrad 10. Malgaon 11. Dheengsari

1. Source : Collectorate, Nagaur.

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

INCIDENCE OF CRIME

The incidence of major crime reported during the recent years from the district is given in the following table¹ :

Year	Dacoity	Robbery	Murder	Riot	Burglary	Cattle theft	Other theft	(Number)	
								Misc. I.P.C.	Total
1957	1	16	15	32	127	73	104	252	620
1958	1	5	23	26	108	64	80	207	514
1959	3	19	11	68	124	75	79	293	672
1960	1	12	20	25	108	62	80	235	543
1961	2	12	8	34	135	69	101	252	613
1962	2	15	23	60	138	79	121	378	816
1963	4	23	12	74	153	84	154	481	985
1964	2	36	22	59	216	88	171	450	1,044
1965	3	31	27	94	190	82	206	475	1,108
1966	3	40	24	111	207	90	230	493	1,198
1967	4	51	18	115	231	72	218	580	1,297
1968	3	43	23	158	255	119	323	663	1,587
1969	5	48	25	160	199	96	289	616	1,438

It will be observed that the number of cases under the Indian Penal Code has more than doubled during the period 1957-1969. The increase in case of dacoity, robbery and riot is more conspicuous than in other crimes. The dacoity, theft and robbery were not committed by any organised gangs. The causes of murder have been private and property disputes while that of riot were factionalism and political rivalry particularly in the rural areas. Most of the serious burglaries were committed by the Meenas of the adjoining districts.

The following table² gives the amount of the property stolen and recovered by the police in the district :

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan* for various years.
2. *ibid.*

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Property stolen during the year	Property recovered during the year	Percentage of recovered property to stolen property
1957	136	39	28.7
1958	133	58	43.6
1959	285	94	33.0
1960	154	70	45.5
1961	270	92	34.1
1962	196	88	44.9
1963	297	117	39.4
1964	239	146	61.0
1965	241	138	57.3
1966	285	171	59.9
1967	414	101	24.5
1968	570	180	31.6
1969	446	325	72.8

POLICE

Historical Background

As has been mentioned elsewhere, the present district of Nagaur was carved out of the various *parganas* of the erstwhile Jodhpur State in 1949, and accordingly, the police administration in this area, was being carried on in accordance with the rules and regulations prevalent at that time in that State. Before 1885 A.D. the police functions were performed solely by the local troops (excluding the artillery) and the jagir militia in the Jodhpur State. In the year 1885, in order to ensure regular registration and efficient detection of crime, a special department¹, Mahakma Girai, was created and placed under an inspector whose services were borrowed from Ajmer administration. The new set-up hardly resulted in any improvement even though the strength of the department was increased between the years 1893 and 1896 A.D. It became imperative to revitalise it and accordingly the services of an Inspector from Punjab Police were sought in 1904 to reorganise the force.

In August 1905, regular police force was constituted² consisting of an Inspector General, five District Superintendents, two Assistant Superintendents, nineteen Inspectors, seventy-nine sub-inspectors, forty-one *havildars*, 111 *naiks*, 415 mounted constables (of which 200 were furnished by the

1. Erskine, K.D., *op. cit.*, p. 160.

2. *ibid.*

jagirdars) and 1,144 unmounted constables, besides 71 *pagis* (trackers), clerks and other establishment. Uniforms were provided free of cost to members of the force upto the ranks of sub-inspectors and the arms equipment of the force included old muzzle-loading muskets.

For purposes of police administration¹, the State was divided into four districts, each under a Superintendent of Police; 15 circles, each under an Inspector; seventy *thanas* or police stations; and 125 outposts (*Chowkies*). A reserve of one hundred men, including recruits under training was maintained at the capital ready to be sent on duty as occasion required. Enlistment was confined, as far as possible to the subjects of the State, irrespective of caste and creed; and all recruits, except such as were already in the State service, had to be between the ages of 18 and 25 years and atleast five feet and three inches in height.

This police force had jurisdiction throughout the Jodhpur territory except in the estates of certain *thakurs* who were allowed to retain some of their police powers. They were, however, held responsible for the detection and investigation of all offences, other than heinous crimes like murder, dacoity, highway robbery etc., committed within their respective areas. They had to maintain registers and records which were open to the periodical inspection of the District Superintendent of Police. Cases of heinous crimes occurring in their estates were dealt with by the State police.

In the same year (1905) the Police Act² was passed. It was revised in 1916 on the pattern of the Police Act in British India and rules were framed for the guidance of the Police force. A post of Deputy Inspector General of Police was also created and a separate branch of the force known as the Criminal Investigation Department which collected secret information to help the regular police in investigating the crimes of complicated nature was also set up. The C.I.D. wing was re-organised in May 1944 and its work was sub-divided into (1) political branch, (2) crime branch, (3) criminal tribes branch and (4) finger print branch. The organisational set up of the department in other respects remained almost the same till the merger of the State in Rajasthan except for some changes in the number of police stations and personnel.

The State Government did not maintain any village police but in some places *chowkidars*, usually members of the criminal tribes, were employed and paid by the inhabitants. The remuneration they received was

1. Erskine, K.D., *op. cit.*, p. 160.

2. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State for the year 1941-42*, Jodhpur (1943), p. 143.

known as *lag-bag* and varied considerably in different localities; the agriculturists paid it in kind while others contributed small sums in cash on ceremonial occasions. In return, the *chowkidars* were obliged to report all crimes in the village to the police, worked as trackers and made good the value of any property proved to have been stolen due to their negligence. As there was no legal sanction behind the payment of the remuneration to the *chowkidars*, the system gradually withered and died out.

After Merger

After the merger of Jodhpur State with Rajasthan and the subsequent formation of the present district a Superintendent of Police was appointed with headquarters at Nagaur and made responsible for prevention and detection of crime in the entire district. Four police circles (Nagaur, Merta, Didwana and Parvatsar) were carved each under a Circle Officer. The Nagaur and Didwana circles were placed under one Deputy Superintendent who was posted at the headquarters of the district and the remaining two circles were under another Deputy Superintendent, stationed at Merta. Three Circle Inspectors, one each at Didwana, Nagaur and Parvatsar were also posted. Twenty-three police stations and twenty-eight police out-posts were set up under these four circles. The organisational set up was completed by placing the district under the Jodhpur Range, headed by a Deputy Inspector General of Police.

After the formation of Rajasthan, a uniform system of service rules regarding recruitment, pay scales, discipline, promotion, training etc. was enforced. All the members of the force wore prescribed uniforms.

Since 1950, there has not been much change in the organisation of this department in the district. Two² posts of Inspectors, one for prosecution and another in the reserve, have been created. In 1962 and 1963, certain alterations were made in the ranks of the personnel holding charge of the police circles. The headquarters of some police out-posts were also changed. The jurisdiction of the Deputy Superintendent at the headquarters, which extended over Nagaur and Didwana circles, was now restricted to Nagaur only while the Police Circle of Didwana was put under the charge of a Circle Inspector headquartered at Didwana. Likewise, the Police Circle of Merta was placed under a Circle Inspector stationed at Merta while the Parvatsar Circle was put under a Deputy Superintendent whose headquarters were later shifted to Makrana. The posts of Reserve Inspector and Prosecuting Inspectors continued as before. The other staff consists of 40 sub-inspectors (including six sub-inspectors

1. *Set-up of General Administration, Government of Rajasthan*, pp. 73-74.
2. Source : Office of the Superintendent of Police, Nagaur.

for prosecution work), eight assistant sub-inspectors, 112 head constables and 767 constables. The personnels of the police force of the district are given requisite training at Jodhpur. For higher training, they are sent to Kishangarh in Ajmer district. The preliminary training is imparted in the district itself in the police lines where the new recruits along with the reserve force stay permanently to be utilised in an emergency. For the sake of administrative convenience, the whole force is divided into two categories¹, civil and armed police, the former is assigned the duties of investigation and detection of crime while the latter is mainly allotted the task of guarding the jails, lock-ups and treasury and also escorting the under-trial and prisoners. The strength of the entire force rank-wise is given below :

	Superintendent	Deputy-Superintendent	Inspector	Sub-inspector	Assistant Sub-inspector	Head Constable	Constable
Civil Police	1	2	4	39	8	79	607
Armed Police	—	—	1	1	—	33	160

MOUNTED POLICE—There is no separate mounted police in the district, but 165 constables of the civil police maintain their own camels, for which every one of them is paid an allowance of forty rupees per mensem. The mounted constables normally patrol the areas under their beat at periodical intervals.

PROSECUTION BRANCH—In the same manner one inspector, six sub-inspectors, ten head constables and seventeen constables are drawn from the civil police for prosecution work. The inspector conducts prosecution of the special report cases in the courts, files appeals and revisions. The above strength is distributed in the district, as below :

Headquarters	Inspector	Sub-inspector	Head constables	Constables
Nagaur	1	2	5	5
Didwana	—	1	1	3
Nawa	—	1	1	3
Parvatsar	—	1	1	3
Merta	—	1	1	3
Office of the Public Prosecutor, Merta	—	—	1	—

TRAFFIC POLICE—There is no separate traffic police in the district at present (1969-70), but one sub-inspector, two head constables and

1. Office of the Superintendent of Police, Nagaur.

twelve constables are drawn from the civil police, for this purpose. They are trained in traffic rules and signals so that they may be able to regulate vehicular traffic, check the permits and driving licences and enforce parking regulations. The entire staff is posted at Nagaur town but in case of need they are temporarily shifted to the place where traffic is to be controlled.

SPECIAL BRANCH—A special branch, the personnel of which are, again, drawn from the civil police has also been organised. It is entrusted with the task of collecting and supplying information regarding professional criminals and keeping watch on the activities of subversive elements. This branch consists of two sub-inspectors, six head constables and eighteen constables (1969-70).

OFFICE ESTABLISHMENT—The establishment of the office of the Police Superintendent includes (1969-70) a stenographer, an assistant and thirteen clerks. They look after the daily routine work of the office, maintain files and records, receive instructions from the Superintendent and communicate them to the subordinate offices.

POLICE STATIONS—The total number of police stations and out-posts in the district has remained unchanged since 1950 although some of these have been abolished and new ones created. The number and names of police stations and out-posts which existed in 1950 are given below¹ while those existing now (1969) are given in Appendix I :

Police circles	Name of police station	Name of out-post
1. Didwana	1. Bardawa	1. Bhadasar 2. Mithari
	2. Didwana	
	3. Khatu	3. Tarnau
	4. Khunkhuna	
	5. Ladnun	4. Ladnun 5. Malagaon
		6. Tanwara
2. Merta	6. Degana	
	7. Merta City	7. Poondlu
	8. Merta Road	8. Gotan 9. Ren
	9. Padu	
	10. Thanwala	10. Bharunda 11. Bijathal
3. Nagaur	11. Bhaggu	12. Guda Bhagwan Dass
		13. Pipasar
	12. Bhawanda	14. Bhakrod

1. *Set-up of General Administration, Government of Rajasthan*, pp 73-74.

1	2	3
	13. Mundwa	15. Kuchera 16. Rol
	14. Nagaur	17. Nagaur
	15. Surpaliya	18. Chau 19. Deh
	16. Tantwas	20. Karnu
4. Parvatsar	17. Chitwa	21. Hudil
	18. Gachhipura	22. Badu
	19. Kuchaman	23. Kuchaman
	20. Maroth	24. Mondghasai
	21. Nawa	25. Narainpura
	22. Parvatsar	26. Badsu
		27. Borawad
		28. Makrana
	23. Peelwa	

Welfare

A fund known as the Rajasthan Police Welfare and Canteen Fund is maintained by the department at the district headquarters¹. The main object of the fund is to cater to the welfare of the police personnel and their families and to meet expenditure incurred on activities such as spreading adult literacy among policemen and their children, providing subsidiary diet to the indoor patients in police hospitals; extending maternity benefits and such other medical relief not normally admissible under the government rules and for setting up canteens. The fund is also used for sports and other recreational activities as also to help the retired police men to start cottage industries. The fund is raised by collecting voluntary subscriptions and donations, staging dramatic and cultural shows and performances, and running of canteens etc. During the last five years, 109 police personnels have been benefited by availing of a sum of Rs. 4,720. The present balance in the fund is of the tune of Rs. 23,959. The Superintendent of Police is the ex-officio chairman of the fund.

Railway Police

During the period when the district formed a part of the erstwhile State of Jodhpur, two railway lines² traversed the area; one managed by

1. Source : Office of the Superintendent of Police, Nagaur.

2. Erskine, K.D., *op. cit.*, p. 161.

the Rajputana-Malwa system and the other by the Jodhpur-Bikaner system of railway operations. The former had its own police establishment which was a part of the Bombay police force but was latter transferred under the control of the Agent to the Governor General in Rajputana. It was headed by a Superintendent of Railway Police. On the Jodhpur-Bikaner system, the police duties were formerly performed by a small force maintained by the Jodhpur State. It consisted of an Inspector, six head-constables, thirty-four constables and a couple of clerks. The Jodhpur State, however, agreed in 1900 A.D. to cede full jurisdiction over the line to the Railway Police of the British Government. In 1924-25, the joint ownership of the Jodhpur-Bikaner railway line was divided¹ and since then the railway police on the section of the line belonging to Jodhpur State had been maintained by the State Police Department of Jodhpur. A police station (Railway) was opened² at Merta Road on 1.10.1924 with the strength of one sub-inspector, two head constables and 16 constables. There were four out-posts under this police station at Nagaur, Didwana, Degana and Makrana, each having a head constable and two constables. After the formation of Rajasthan, the entire Railway police in Rajasthan was placed under the charge of a Superintendent in 1954. For the railway line passing through this district, besides the staff enumerated above, an additional constable for each of the out-posts at Nagaur, Makrana and Didwana, and three for the out-post at Degana, were posted. The strength was again increased later and the position at present (1969) is as under:

(Number)

Headquarters	Strength		
	Sub-inspector	Head Constable	Constable
Police Station, Merta Road	1	2	18
Out-post, Makrana	—	1	3
Out-post, Degana	—	1	3
Out-post, Nagaur	—	1	3
Out-post, Didwana	—	1	3

The Government railway police is a separate branch of the State police which is responsible for the prevention and detection of crime in the running trains and on the railway premises. Although the Divisional Superintendent of Northern Railways headquartered at Jodhpur, exercises jurisdiction over the railway track, the railway police is responsible to and

1. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State* for the year 1941-42, p.143.
2. Source : Office of the Superintendent of Railway Police, Rajasthan, Ajmer.

seeks orders from the Superintendent, Railway Police, headquartered at Ajmer, who is under the administrative control of Government of Rajasthan.

The following table¹ gives the statistics relating to criminal offences registered by the railway police since 1951 :

Year	(Number)					
	Theft in running trains	Theft at station	Theft in goods trains	Misc-thefts	Total	Ticketless travellers
1951	12	32	13	8	65	13
1952	13	25	8	16	62	—
1953	6	17	6	7	36	—
1954	17	13	4	10	44	77
1955	5	15	6	10	36	58
1956	—	11	3	16	30	97
1957	4	5	—	7	16	102
1958	2	9	—	5	16	120
1959	3	9	3	4	19	135
1960	1	4	—	9	14	150
1961	2	6	5	8	21	23
1962	6	8	—	15	29	185
1963	6	4	3	14	27	195
1964	14	14	4	15	47	135
1965	3	9	6	20	38	120
1966	6	14	5	31	56	24
1967	13	12	1	23	49	15
1968	4	9	7	29	49	279
1969	10	14	2	11	37	322

Special Police Establishment²

An office of the Special Police Establishment, Central Bureau of Investigation, Government of India, with headquarters at Jaipur and headed by a Superintendent, deals mainly with the cases of bribery and corruption against the Central Government employees working in Rajasthan. It also investigates cases pertaining to Import and Export Control Act (1947); Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (1947); Essential Commodities Act (1955) and Defence of India Act (1962). There does not exist,

1. Source : Office of the Superintendent of Railway Police, Rajasthan, Ajmer.

2. Source : Office of the Superintendent, Special Police Establishment, Government of India, Jaipur.

however, any agency separately for this district and all the cases are investigated by staff from the headquarters at Jaipur. During 1969-70, five cases had been investigated from the district, in three of which the accused were punished departmentally while in one case, the employee was exonerated. The fifth case is still pending regular departmental action.

Anti-corruption Department¹

Before the re-organisation of the Anti-corruption department in 1957, the work was centralised at Jaipur in one of the cells of the State Criminal Investigation Department. Field agencies were created that year and Nagaur district was placed under the Anti-corruption out-post at Jodhpur headed by a Deputy Superintendent. Three years later, in 1960, the charge of this district was transferred to the out-post at Bikaner and it was re-transferred to Jodhpur in February 1961. In December 1966, the work was again transferred to the out-post at Bikaner which has jurisdiction over the districts of Bikaner, Churu and Nagaur.

The department registers and investigates charges of corruption and bribery against the employees of the State Government. Between 1957 and 1969, 381 complaints were registered from the Nagaur district, out of which enquiries in 334 cases were completed. Thirty Government servants were either convicted by the courts or punished departmentally, two enquiries are pending with the disciplinary authorities and five cases are pending trial in the courts. During this period (1957-69), 37 criminal cases were registered.

Home Guards²

Under the Rajasthan Home Guards Act (1963), a volunteer force known as Home Guards was raised in the district. The Superintendent of Police of the district is the ex-officio Commandant. There is also a Deputy Commandant who, although controlled by the Commandant General of Home Guards headquartered at Jaipur, functions directly under the Superintendent of Police in the district.

There are two companies of the Home Guards in the district, each having a strength of 110. One of them is posted at Nagaur while the members of the other are posted at Ladnun (one platoon), Kuchaman (one platoon) and Merta (one platoon). Home Guards are imparted preliminary course of training in drill, physical exercises, rifle shooting, first aid and the like, and it lasts for 75 days in a year. The refresher courses are also held during this period.

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1. Source : Office of the Deputy Inspector General of Police, Anti-Corruption Department, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
 2. Source : Office of the Superintendent of Police, Nagaur.

JAIL ADMINISTRATION

Historical Retrospect

The old gazetteer of Jodhpur State mentions that besides the two jails at the capital, small prisons were maintained at the headquarters of each district where persons sentenced to three months or less were confined. Every police station had its lock-up for the under-trial prisoners. Prisoners undergoing sentence for more than three months were sent to the jails at the capital. Describing the conditions prevailing in the prison at the capital in 1873, Erskine¹ writes, "In 1873, the Jodhpur jail was a part of the *Kotwali*, situated in the heart of the city, and was described as small, badly ventilated and totally unfit, for a large number of convicts, and as containing 'a crowded, if not happy, family of human beings, dogs, cats, pigeons and rats, wallowing in the dirt.' This reproach was removed in the following year, when a large octagonal building, situated about a thousand yards outside the Sojati gate of the city and originally intended for stables, was converted into a prison at a cost of some Rs. 20,000; a Superintendent was appointed, certain industries were started, cook houses and latrines were provided, and water for drinking and washing purposes was obtained from a well sunk close by."

In 1884, a small vegetable garden was added to this prison and the system of recovering the cost of their food from the prisoners was abolished. Four years later, the use of the iron *bel* (chain), which passed through the top ring of the fetters of all the inmates of each dormitory, was discontinued. Soon after, other amelioratory measures were adopted, smoking was prohibited and a factory was established. A subsidiary jail was also opened in the city but the need of a larger building was felt, and a central jail was constructed between 1890 and 1894 at a cost of more than a lakh of rupees. This jail had an accommodation for 862 prisoners (788 males and 74 females) and as a building, it was 'one of the finest in Rajputana, well situated, constructed and ventilated.' It had separate wards for under-trial and female prisoners, cook houses, store-rooms, a hospital, and other necessary adjuncts and was served with a water-supply system through pipe lines from Balsamand reservoir. The accommodation in this jail, in course of time, proved inadequate and the old jail, therefore, was also utilised for housing the prisoners. The convicts were employed in mending roads, weaving rugs, blankets, dusters etc., repairing polo grounds and working in gardens.

In the years that followed² the number of industries and crafts in

1. Erskine, K.D., *A Gazetteer of the Jodhpur State and some Statistical Tables*, Ajmer (1909), pp. 163-164.
2. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State* for various years.

the central jail factory multiplied and it started producing quality goods. These included bed durries of large size, *asans*, *janamaz* (prayer mats), newar and Turkey cloth, dusters *jharans*, blankets, *reza*, shikar cloth, girths, heel ropes, tapes, towels, chicks, iron pans, office baskets, money bags, caning of chairs and a miscellany of other articles. These manufactures soon captured the market because of their high quality and durability and the income of the factory multiplied in the same proportion as its output. The average yield from the manufactures in 1904-05 was barely Rs. 1300 a year which was obviously insignificant. After a decade in 1914-15 the income rose to Rs. 14,807 which further increased to 34,701 in 1925-26 and to Rs. 1,43,744 in 1943-44.

The prisoners were given special remissions in their terms of sentence on various auspicious occasions, such as the birth days of the King Emperor and the ruler of the State and on other occasions specified by the State. A school for juvenile delinquents was set up and adult literacy classes were started in the jail.

Present Position

After the formation of Rajasthan, a uniform system of jail administration was evolved. The entire State¹ was divided into 19 Jail Circles, and each circle had a number of jails and lock-ups. The jails were categorised as Central Jails and District Jails, which were further classified as A, B, C, D and E. Likewise the lock-ups of the districts of Nagaur, Barmer, Pali, Jalor and Jodhpur were included in the Jodhpur Circle which had a central jail at Jodhpur and 13 lock-ups at various places. In this district, four lock-ups existed, namely at Nagaur (first class), Parvatsar (second class), Merta and Didwana (both third class). The convicts sentenced to less than a month and the under-trials were kept in these lock-ups; others were transferred to the central or the district jails according to the terms of their imprisonment. This position continued with minor changes and except that lock-ups have been now nomenclatured as sub-jails, the categorisation as first, second and third class still remains. Three out² of the four sub-jails of the district, namely, those at Didwana (third class), Parvatsar (second class) and Merta (second class) are housed in old buildings and have a maximum accommodation for 20, 30 and 80 prisoners respectively. The sub-jail at Nagaur (second class) is housed in a new building constructed in 1952 and has a maximum accommodation for 150 inmates. All the four sub-jails have separate arrangements

1. *Set-up of General Administration*, Government of Rajasthan, pp. 49-53.

2. Source : Offices of the Incharges of various jails as well as the Inspector General of Prisons, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

for female prisoners. The juvenile delinquents are detained in these jails only till the time the bail is granted and also during the period of trial and thereafter transferred to the Juvenile Reformatory at Udaipur. Other categories of the population in this jail consist of under-trials and prisoners sentenced to one month's imprisonment or less. Those with longer terms of sentence are transferred to the central jail at Jodhpur. There are no regular arrangement for civil prisoners and detenues but whenever necessity arises, arrangements are made in these sub-jails for housing them.

All the jail buildings are properly guarded and arrangements are made to prevent escapes. The staff consists of a jailor, a few head-warders and warders. The local sub-divisional magistrate acts as officer-in-charge and ensures that the rules prescribed in the jail manual are properly implemented and entry of visitors regulated. The staff of the jails is under the control of the Inspector General of Prisons headquartered at Jaipur. The details of population in these prisons are given in Appendix II.

Welfare

As has been described above, in the Central Jail at Jodhpur during princely regime, the prisoners were employed in various crafts which not only prepared them for gainful occupations after their release, but also brought a fairly good revenue to the State. In the sub-jails, however, no such craft or industry is run because only the under-trials and those imprisoned for a period of one month or less are housed in them. It is neither economical nor useful to start any vocational training or industry there. However facilities for reading and writing are provided to the inmates. Their daily diet is regulated according to the rules laid down in the jail manual. Prisoners have to prepare their own meals out of the food stuff provided to them by the jail authorities, the scale of which is prescribed by the government. There are two types of scales prescribed by the Government for the diet of the prisoners (a) labouring diet (b) non-labouring diet. The former consists of flour of wheat (583 gm.), *dal* (87 gm.), un-ground salt (17 gm.), linseed oil (15 gm.), un-ground condiments (7 gm.), *gur* twice a week (29 gm.) and fire wood (700 gm.). The breakfast consists of parched gram (58 gm.). The non-labouring diet is similar except that the quantity of flour and *dal* are less (525 gm. and 58 gm. respectively) and that no *gur* is provided. Medical aid is also rendered by part-time doctors and compounders. Visitors' Board is also formed to see that the prisoners are given all facilities according to rules.

JUSTICE

Historical Background

Before the close of the eighteenth century¹, the Government of

1. Erskine, K.D., *op. cit.*, p. 132.

Marwar of which this district formed a part, did not have the stability and strength enough to make its fiat run throughout its territory. It had therefore no permanent and regularly constituted courts of Justice. In some cases the people settled their disputes themselves, sometimes through the arbitrament of successfully undergoing various forms of ordeals while the assistance of the village panchayat was sought in other cases and in a few instances, the matter would be taken before the *Hakim*, who was an executive rather than a judicial officer. Appeals against the decisions of the *Hakim* lay to the Diwan who was at the capital. Lt. Colonel Tod, describing the Marwar of his time (1818-22), wrote that since the death of Maharaja Bijai Singh (1793) the judgement-seat had been vacant and that the administration of justice was very lax in these communities, capital punishments being rarely awarded; and the common sentences in cases of murder being fine, corporal punishment, imprisonment, confiscation of property or banishment; on the other hand, political offences were very summarily dealt with, and the whole power of the Government was concentrated to punish them.

In 1839, certain courts at the State capital and in the districts were established¹. Ordinarily cases at the capital were tried by a bench of four judges who, "having reported the issue to the Maharaja, acted according to the instructions they received", while, for the disposal of serious cases, four persons (the Diwan, the Vakil, the Bakhshi and another official) were associated with them. Cases in towns were tried by the Kotwal, the *Muhrif* (Munsif), the *Waga-navis* and the *Ittila-navis* and in the districts justice was administered by the *Hakim*, the *Karkun*, the *Mushrif*, the *Waga-navis* and the *Ittila-navis*. Appeals were allowed except in offences of a trivial nature, but the procedure in all these courts was very primitive. Thus it was laid down that "should a case be brought forward, the truth of which cannot be ascertained through the deposition of the witnesses and the statements of the plaintiff and the defendant, and in which the wisdom of the judges is at fault, then, according to the custom of the Raj, ordeal by immersion in water is to be resorted to". Again, "should the offender be of a class who can be committed to prison, he will be placed in confinement by the Kotwal; but should he be a class upon whom fines are eviable, then they can exercise their privilege of immersement. Should the case be of an aggravated nature, the decision will be given according to the commands of the Maharaja, who will determine the punishment to be inflicted".

A few years later, a set of rules and regulations was enacted² for

1. Erskine, K.D., *op. cit.*, p. 132.

2. *ibid.*, p. 133.

the guidance of the courts. It is noteworthy that upto 1873, the proceedings of the case were not fully recorded and no files or registers were kept. Even where crime was proved against an offender, the arm of the law would not touch him if he was a member of a privileged class or sought shelter in some temple or the mansion of one of the great nobles. In jagir territory, the state of affairs was even worse as the jagirdars did very little themselves and resented any interference from the ruler of the State in punishing offenders within their jurisdiction.

Such a state of affairs continued till the seventies of the last century when the ruler sought to improve the situation¹ by (i) suppressing crime with the aid of a strong police force, (ii) establishing a powerful board of control called the *Mahakma Musahibat* (later styled as *Mahakma Khas*), (iii) strengthening and reforming the administration of justice by creating new courts and introducing statutory law and (iv) harnessing the powers of the leading nobles to harmonise with those of the State law courts, which were properly defined and classified into three grades. With a view to providing a tribunal strong enough to command the obedience of the jagirdars to its decrees, the Court of Sardars was established in 1882, and a special officer, borrowed from the Punjab Government was placed in charge of it in 1883. Two Munsifs' courts were added in 1884 and 1886 to dispose of accumulated arrears and deal with a large number of suits resulting from the reduction of the limitation period from twenty to twelve years. At the headquarters of some circles or groups of districts a number of Superintendents courts were created to exercise supervision and control over the work of the *Hakims*, and to dispose of, near the spot instead of at the capital, all cases beyond the powers of the latter.

This reorganisation was not confined only to the creation of new tribunals but was also accompanied by systematic legislation. The *Mahakma Khas*, presided over by the ruler himself, was both the legislature and the High Court for the entire state of Marwar. It issued from time to time rules and regulations for the guidance of the subordinate courts.

During 1885-86, the Civil Procedure Code, the Limitation, the Evidence and the Stamps Acts and the Criminal Procedure Code were enacted and published, the first four coming into force in January, 1886 and the last in March, 1887. All these were based² on similar enactments in British India with variations suited to local conditions.

By 1905 a well defined judicial system had emerged in the State.

1. Erskine, K. D., *op. cit.*, p. 133.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 134.

The courts then extant could be grouped under three heads¹, namely, (i) those deriving their authority from the Ruler or the State Courts, (ii) those established by the Governor General in Council and (iii) others or interstatal.

The State Courts numbered altogether eighty-five and consisted of (a) forty-one courts presided over by officials employed by the ruler, and (b) forty-four courts presided over by jagirdars or their managers (*Kamdars*). To the first group belonged the nine *hawala* courts, the twenty-three *hukumat* courts, the Jodhpur *Kotwali*, the *Munsifi*, the courts of the two Superintendents of Circles, the Civil Court (*Sadar Diwani*), the Criminal Court (*Sadar Faujdari*), the Appellate Court, the Court of Sardars; and the *Mahakma Khas*.

Of the nine *hawala* courts, eight were presided over by the *darogas*². They were located at Nagaur, Merta, Nawa, Bilara, Dholera, Jalor, Jodhpur, and Bali. They dealt with civil suits not exceeding Rs. 100/- in value, provided that both the parties were inhabitants of the villages under their Revenue Circles. The ninth *Hawala* court was that of the Superintendent which was located at the capital. He disposed of appeals against the decisions of the *darogas*.

Of the twenty-three *Hukumat* courts four were located at Nagaur, Merta, Didwana and Parvatsar. The *Hakims*, within their respective charges, tried civil suits not exceeding Rs. 500/- (or with the permission of the civil court Rs. 1,000/-) in value, and in criminal cases could pass a sentence of imprisonment upto four months, levy fine upto Rs. 200/- and order whipping not exceeding six stripes.

The appeals³ from the decisions of the *Hakims'* Court and the Superintendent's Court lay to the Civil Court at the capital (*Sadar Diwani Adalat*) which also tried original suits not exceeding Rs. 5,000/- (or by order of the Appellate Court Rs. 10,000/-) in value, with the exception of those cases in which either a Rajput jagirdar was a party or a question of adoption was at issue. It further had an insolvency side for all except Rajput jagirdars and every person unable to pay the court-fees had to be certified as a pauper by this tribunal.

The Criminal Court (*Sadar Faujdari Adalat*) consisted⁴ of two tribunals, one presided over by a Magistrate and the other by an Assistant Magistrate.

1. Erskine, K. D, *op. cit.*, pp. 135-136.

2. *ibid.*, p. 136.

3. *ibid.*, pp. 137.

4. *ibid.*

The former exercised both appellate and original jurisdiction. He heard appeals from the decisions of (i) the *Hakims* (except of Mallani, Pachbhadra and Sheo), (ii) the *Kotwal*, (iii) the two Superintendents (save in Mallani cases) and (iv) the Assistant Magistrate. On the original side, he could punish an offender with imprisonment not exceeding two years and fine upto Rs. 1,000. The sentence of imprisonment upto one month passed by him or fine upto Rs. 50 and his order in appeal inflicting imprisonment upto three months and fine Rs. 100 were final, subject only to revision by the *Mahakma Khas*. The Assistant Magistrate ordinarily dealt with offences punishable with imprisonment not exceeding six months and fine upto Rs. 100 but could, with the permission of the Magistrate, take up more important cases.

The Appellate Court heard appeals¹ from the decisions of the Civil and Criminal Courts, tried original suits exceeding Rs. 5,000 in value and all adoption cases in which a Rajput Jagirdar was not involved and could pass a sentence of imprisonment for ten years and impose a fine of Rs. 5,000. Its orders confirming the decrees of the lower courts in civil cases, and inflicting sentences of imprisonment not exceeding one year and imposing a fine of Rs. 500 in criminal cases were usually non-appealable.

The Court of *Sardars* exercised both original and appellate jurisdiction² in all civil cases in which Rajput Jagirdars were parties and, like the Criminal Court, consisted of two tribunals, one under a Superintendent and the other under an Assistant Superintendent. The latter dealt with insolvency proceedings and also tried suits not exceeding Rs. 2,000 in value, as well as miscellaneous cases. The Superintendent heard appeals against the orders of his Assistant and took up all cases which were not within his powers, but in the trial of land or adoption suits to which a *tazimi sardar* was a party, a *Thakur*, nominated by the *Mahakma Khas* was associated with him to act as a joint judge of the court and if this *Thakur* happened to be himself a party to the suit, another was appointed especially for the occasion.

The *Mahakma Khas* exercised³ full powers of Superintendence and control over all the subordinate courts and was the highest judicial tribunal in the State, exercising appellate or revisional jurisdiction against the decisions of the Court of *Sardars*, the Superintendent of the western districts (in Mallani cases) and the various jagirdars' courts. It was

1. Erskine, K. D., *op. cit.* p. 137.

2. *ibid.*

3. *ibid.*

practically the final court of appeal on both the civil and criminal sides and only the capital sentences and orders in important cases in which the jagirdars were involved, alone required the confirmation of the ruler.

The jagirdars' courts were divided into three grades, namely (a) those authorised to try civil suits not exceeding Rs. 1,000 in value, and to pass a sentence of six month's imprisonment and Rs. 300 fine, (b) those exercising exactly half of these powers; and (c) those which could take up suits of a value not exceeding Rs. 300 and could inflict a punishment of one month's imprisonment and fine upto Rs. 100. Appeals against the decisions lay to the *Mahakma Khas*, which also decided cases not within the powers of any of these courts. The jagirdars who had the above powers were obliged to keep assistants trained in judicial work and approved by the *Mahakma Khas*. The number of tribunals and the powers exercised by them consequently varied from time to time.

The British Courts exercised civil and criminal jurisdiction over specified areas, viz., railway line, Sambhar, Didwana, Kuchaman and Pachpadra salt resources etc.

An important step in the development of the judicial system¹ was taken in 1912 by the establishment of the chief court which was vested with all the judicial powers of the *Mahakma Khas* and the original jurisdiction in suits of the value of over Rs. 10,000. For the purpose of administration of justice, the State was divided into four circles with a Judicial Superintendent incharge of each circle. The powers of all the courts were properly defined and the rules regarding the examination and enrolment of legal practitioners were introduced for the first time.

A further re-organisation of the Department was effected² in 1924. The District and Sessions Court took the place of the *Faujdari* and Civil Courts and the Courts of *Sardars* and the Courts of *Naib-Hakims* were created for the first time. Since then, the jurisdiction of the courts, both original and appellate, has been considerably modified.

Sometime before the merger of the Jodhpur State in Rajasthan, the following courts were in existence in Jodhpur State for the administration of justice in addition to the revenue courts.

1. Chief Court

2. District and Sessions Courts (4)

1. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State for the year 1941-42*, Jodhpur (1943), p. 103.

2. *ibid.*

3. Court of Judicial Superintendents and District Magistrates (5)
4. Court of Small Causes (1)
5. Courts of Hakims (23)
6. Courts of Naib-Hakims (12)
7. Honorary Magistrates' Court (1)
8. Thikana Courts of First Class (22)
9. Thikana Courts of Second Class (11)

The areas forming the present district of Nagaur were under the jurisdiction of the following courts (a) District and Sessions Court No. 4, headquartered at Jodhpur having jurisdiction over *Parganas* of Sambhar, Merta, Nagaur, Didwana, Parvatsar, (b) Court of Judicial Superintendent, headquartered at Sambhar with jurisdiction as given in (a) above, (c) Court of *Hakims* one each at Nagaur, Merta, Didwana and Parvatsar having jurisdiction over their respective *hukumats*.

The Chief Court exercised¹ on the criminal side, original jurisdiction in all criminal cases in which death penalty could be imposed and also in such cases against the *Tazimi Sardars* as were sent for trial to that court instead of a special tribunal which was usually constituted for the purpose. Appeals against acquittal lay to the Chief Court. Cases, in which a sessions judge opined that capital sentence ought to be inflicted upon the accused, were submitted to the Chief Court. Sentence of life imprisonment passed by a Sessions Judge was subject to confirmation by the Chief Court. Sentences of death awarded by the Chief Court were subject to confirmation by the ruler. In such cases a Committee consisting of the Minister for Justice and one more Minister heard the case and a report was then sent to the ruler for final orders. On the civil side, the Chief Court had concurrent powers with the District Courts to try original suits of the value of Rs. 10,000 and over. As regards appeals, the Chief Court heard appeals from the original decrees passed by the District Courts. It also heard second appeals, sitting in a Division Bench, from the decrees of the Judicial Superintendents' Courts and in Single Bench from the decrees of the *Hakims*' Courts. Appeals against the original judgement of a Single Bench of the Chief Court lay to a Division Bench.

The District and Sessions Courts, on the civil side, were empowered² to try original suits of the value of over Rs. 4,000 and to hear appeals from the decrees of the Judicial Superintendents. The insolvency jurisdiction also vested in them except in Jodhpur where it lay in the Small

1. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State for the year 1941-42*, Jodhpur (1943), pp. 104-105.

2. *ibid.*

Cause Court. On the criminal side, as court of Sessions, they had the power of awarding any sentence except that of death though the sentence of life imprisonment passed by them was subject to confirmation by the Chief Court. Cases in which extreme penalty was considered necessary were submitted to the Chief Court. All appeals against the decisions of Magistrates of the First Class and the *Thikana* Courts lay to the court of Sessions.

The Court of Judicial Superintendents, on the civil side, could try¹ suits of the value of Rs. 100 to Rs. 4,000 and hear appeals from the decrees of the *Hakims* and the *Naib-Hakims*. On the criminal side, they exercised the powers of Magistrates of the First Class in addition to certain other powers under the Marwar Criminal Procedure Code. They heard appeals against the decisions of the Magistrates of Second and Third Class and exercised powers of District Magistrates.

The *Hakims* were empowered², on the civil side, to try suits upto the value of Rs. 1,000 while on the criminal side, they acted as First Class Magistrates, but without any appellate powers. In 1942, a new court of *Hakim* was created at Nagaur for executive work only, whereby the judicial and executive functions at this place were separated. The *Naib-Hakims* were empowered to try money suits upto the value of Rs. 200 on the civil side and exercised Third Class Magisterial powers on the criminal side. Their powers were enhanced after completion of a particular period of service at the discretion of the Minister-in-charge of the department.

The powers of the Courts of Jagirdars varied in accordance with the class in which they were placed (first, second or third). These courts exercised both civil and criminal powers within their jurisdiction. Jagirdars with first class judicial powers could try civil suits of all kinds upto the value of Rs. 1,000 while those enjoying second class judicial powers could try civil suits of all kinds upto the value of Rs. 500. Jagirdars having third class judicial powers could try civil suits upto Rs. 300 in money value.

On the criminal side, jagirdars of the first class could inflict imprisonment for six months and fine upto Rs. 300 while the jagirdars with second class powers could impose a sentence upto three months imprisonment and fine upto Rs. 150/-. Jagirdars with third class powers could pass orders for one month's imprisonment and fine upto Rs. 100. The decisions of jagirdars were appealable before the *Sardars' Court*, Jodhpur.

1. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, for the year 1941-42*, Jodhpur (1943), pp. 104-105.

2. *ibid.*

Present position

After the formation of Rajasthan, a uniform system of judiciary was introduced in all the districts of the State. The *Hakim's* Court at Sambhar was transferred to Nawa and designated as Court of Munsif. Similar nomenclature was given to the *Hakim's* Court at Nagaur. There were three courts at Merta, namely the District and Sessions Court, the Civil and Additional Sessions Court and the Munsif Court. The District & Sessions Court exercised jurisdiction over all the courts existing in the Nagaur district. In the year 1959 the court of Civil and Additional Sessions was shifted to Jodhpur and the Court of Munsif was up-graded to that of Civil Judge. With the partial separation of judiciary from the executive in 1962, the courts of Munsif Magistrate and Additional Munsif Magistrate 1st class were created at Merta and all these four courts are now functioning.

At Nagaur, in the beginning, a Court of Munsif was created. In 1953, a court of Civil Judge was set up in place of Munsif and in 1962 was given powers of Magistrate 1st class too.

At Nawa and Didwana, Court of Munsifs were created in 1950 and later in 1958, powers of 1st Class Magistrate were conferred on them. The powers to try Debt Relief Court cases upto Rs. 5000/- for Nawa tahsil and Didwana tahsils were also conferred upon them in 1958.

The Court of Munsif at Parvatsar was created in 1950 and in 1962 powers of 1st class Magistrate were conferred. However, powers to try Debt Relief Court cases upto Rs. 5000/- for Parvatsar tahsil were conferred in 1958. This Court was also empowered to try cases of Rajasthan Premises (Rent, Control & Eviction Act, 1950) for Makrana town in 1960.

At present there are four courts of Munsif Magistrates headquartered at Merta, Parvatsar, Nawa and Didwana. On the civil side they are invested with the powers to try suits of the valuation of Rs. 5,000. The Courts at Nawa and Didwana also act as courts of Small Causes and competent to try suits of the valuation of Rs. 100. On the criminal side, all the presiding officers have been given first class magistrial powers to try cases under the I. P. C. The Court of the Additional Munsif Magistrate at Merta tries only criminal cases. The appeals against the decisions of these courts lie in the court of the District and Sessions Judge, Merta.

The Court of Civil Judge at Merta can try civil cases only upto the value of Rs. 10,000. It is competent to entertain appeals and revisions against the decisions of the Panchayats and invested with powers to hear election petitions. It also exercises the jurisdiction of the court of Assistant

Sessions. The Court of Civil Judge Nagaur, in addition to the powers to try civil cases, has also been conferred with the powers of a first Class Magistrate to try criminal offences.

The Court of District and Sessions Judge at Merta is the principal court of the district. All the Courts in the district are under its administrative control. The appeals against the decisions of the lower courts in the district, are heard by the District Court upto the valuation of Rs 10,000 while decisions of the District Court are appealable to the High Court at Jodhpur.

Besides the aforementioned judicial courts, there are 69 Nyaya Panchayats in the district.

The District Collector and the four Sub-Divisional Officers in the district are invested with first class magisterial powers, as well as powers to try revenue cases. All the tahsildars are given third class magisterial powers while a few of them enjoy second class magisterial powers.

The institution and disposal of criminal cases in recent years in the district are given in the following table.

Year	CRIMINAL CASES				Balance
	Previous balance	Instituted during the year	Total	Disposed of during the year	
1959-60	2133	3396	5529	3384	2145
1960-61	2145	3884	6029	3688	2341
1961-62	2341	4146	6487	4153	2334
1962-63	2334	2832	5166	3118	2048
1963-64	2048	3171	5219	2629	2590
1964-65	2590	3198	5788	3062	2726
1965-66	2726	2836	5562	2527	3035
1966-67	3035	3821	6856	4038	2818
1967-68	2818	6810	9628	6187	3441
1968-69	3441	5172	8613	3726	4887

Bar Associations

Bar associations exist at all the headquarters of the courts. The number of the members on their roll in 1969-70 was : Merta 27, Didwana 11, Nawa 7, Parvatsar 11 and Nagaur 30.

1. Source: Office of the Director, Economics & Statistics Rajasthan, Jaipur.

APPENDIX I

Police Stations and Out-posts existing in 1969 in the district

Police Circle	Name of Police Stations	Name of out-posts
Nagaur	1. Nagaur	1. Town out-post Nagaur
	2. Sri Balaji	2. Guda Bhagwandas
		3. Pipasar
	3. Panchori	4. Karnu
	4. Bhawanda	5. Kheenwysar
	5. Surpaliya	6. Deh
		7. Chau
	6. Mundwa	8. Rol
		9. Kuchera
	7. Khatu	10. Tarnau
	8. Parvatsar	11. Makrana
		12. Boodsu
		13. Chandi
Makrana	9. Nawa	
	10. Gachhipura	14. Badoo
	11. Maroth	15. Mundagasoi
	12. Chitawa	16. Lalas
	13. Peelwa	
	14. Kuchaman City	17. T.O.P. Kuchaman City
	15. Merta City	18. T.O.P. Merta City
		19. Poondlu
	16. Thanwala	20. Harsore
	17. Padu	
	18. Degana	
	19. Merta Road	21. Gotan
Merta City		22. Ren
	20. Didwana	23. T.O.P. Didwana
	21. Ladnun	24. T.O.P. Ladnun
		25. Nimbi Jodhan
		26. Jaswantgarh
	22. Bardawa	27. Molasar
		28. Mithri
	23. Khunkhuna	

APPENDIX II

Population in the sub-jails of the district

Year	No. of prisoners at the beginning of the year	No. of prisoners admitted during the year	No. of prisoners released from all causes
Nagaur Sub-jail			
1960-61	12	168	169
1961-62	11	253	249
1962-63	15	183	181
1963-64	17	281	285
1964-65	13	170	169
1965-66	14	176	170
1966-67	20	264	268
1967-68	16	180	185
1968-69	11	212	208
1969-70	15	163	170
Didwana Sub-jail			
1960-61	3	118	112
1961-62	9	154	158
1962-63	5	111	112
1963-64	4	140	136
1964-65	8	136	139
1965-66	5	118	122
1966-67	1	94	88
1967-68	7	114	116
1968-69	5	133	133
1969-70	5	162	156
Parvatsar Sub-jail			
1960-61	8	171	178
1961-62	1	226	211
1962-63	16	239	245
1963-64	10	183	181
1964-65	12	267	263
1965-66	16	204	212
1966-67	8	191	178
1967-68	21	238	245
1968-69	14	178	185
1969-70	7	278	255
Merta Sub-jail			
1960-61	26	182	165

APPENDIX II (Concl'd.)

1	2	3	4
1961-62	43	223	229
1962-63	37	278	283
1963-64	32	231	246
1964-65	17	199	195
1965-66	21	263	256
1966-67	28	220	240
1967-68	8	193	190
1968-69	11	317	287
1969-70	41	335	329

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

STATE GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

This chapter contains description of the administrative set up of departments which have not been dealt with in previous chapters or which have not been discussed earlier in detail.

Agriculture Department¹

The District Agriculture Office at Nagaur which was established in 1950 falls under the charge of the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Jodhpur Division, headquartered at Jodhpur for purposes of administration. The district is under the charge of a District Agriculture Officer who is assisted by one agriculture assistant, four clerks, a fieldman, a driver and four class IV employees. Besides, two agriculture assistants (plant protection) and six fieldmen assist him in looking after the programme pertaining to plant protection. One fieldman has also been provided for implementing the oilseeds scheme in the district.

The District Agriculture Officer is entrusted with the task of looking after the agricultural activities of the district especially the execution of district agricultural plans. He arranges the procurement and distribution of seeds, fertilizers, implements etc. to the cultivators. He is also responsible for the implementation of various agricultural schemes of the pests and diseases, green manuring, compost, development of oilseeds, cultivation of fruits, plant protection and development of hybrid seeds. He also imparts technical guidance to the Panchayat Samitis.

The soil conservation work in the district is the responsibility of the Soil Conservation Office under the State Agriculture department set up at Nagaur in 1964-65. It has four units in the district, one each at Nagaur, Merta, Kuchaman and Degana. The staff of this office at the headquarters comprises one District Soil Conservation Officer, one agriculture assistant, an overseer, a draftsman, five fieldmen, two clerks, a jeep driver and two class IV employees. The work in each of the units is supervised by an agriculture assistant assisted by three fieldmen, except at Merta where there are seven fieldmen.

The office² of the District Soil Conservation Officer is responsible

1. Source: Office of the District Agriculture Officer, Nagaur.

2. Source: Office of the District Soil Conservation Officer, Nagaur.

for undertaking measures to check the erosion of soil from wind and water. Contour bunding is done to conserve the moisture in the cultivated fields where the soil is not sandy, but in cases where the soil is sandy and erosion is caused by wind, *Kana bundi* is resorted to. Other methods include *nala bundi* (in the fields which have been cut due to *nullahs*) which stops further deepening of *nala* and gully erosion; construction of *Khadins* in areas where bed cultivation is done; and lastly levelling of land where the soil is undulating.

Animal Husbandry Department¹

The District Animal Husbandry Officer at Nagaur is incharge of the office of this department in the district and he works directly under the Deputy Director, Animal Husbandry whose office is headquartered at Jaipur. The District Animal Husbandry Officer is responsible for improvement in the breed of cattle, prevention and treatment of animal and poultry diseases and control of epidemics. He also looks after the artificial insemination centres and the veterinary hospitals in the district and organises cattle fairs.

There are ten veterinary hospitals at Nagaur, Merta, Nawa, Makrana, Parvatsar, Didwana, Ladnun, Jayal, Kuchaman and Kuchera and eight dispensaries at Kheenwsar, Maroth, Harsor, Riyan, Mundwa, Ren, Deh and Degana, all manned by qualified veterinary surgeons and veterinary assistants. There is one artificial insemination centre at Nagaur and eleven sub-centres at Basni, Bargaon, Phirod, Mundwa, Alay, Bhadana, Sinod, Tausar, Chenar, Chuntisara and Gogelao. Two units of mobile dispensaries also exist at Didwana and Nagaur.

The staff at the headquarters consists of three clerks, one live-stock inspector and two class IV employees. The field staff, working in the various hospitals and dispensaries and other units under the control of District Animal Husbandry Officer, is as follows: 14 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, five veterinary assistants, nine compounders, 39 stockmen, one dresser, 18 syce, 15 watermen, 15 sweepers, three drivers, four bull-attendants, one laboratory assistant, one milk recorder and five camel *sowars*.

Staff of the cattle-breeding farm at Nagaur consists of one superintendent, one assistant superintendent, two clerks, 16 herdmen, one tractor driver and one pump driver. Staff employed in animal husbandry section of various Panchayat Samitis includes nine Animal Husbandry Extension Officers, 24 stockmen, three watermen, three syce, three sweepers and one poultry demonstrator.

1. Source : Office of the District Animal Husbandry Officer, Nagaur.

Co-operative Department

The office¹ of the Assistant Registrar, Co-operative Societies was set up at Nagaur in April 1958. The district falls in the Bikaner zone, which comprises the districts of Bikaner, Churu, Ganganagar and is under the charge of the Deputy Registrar, Co-operative societies, Bikaner zone headquartered at Bikaner.

The Assistant Registrar is incharge of the co-operative department in the district and thus responsible for registering the co-operative societies under the Rajasthan Co-operative Societies Act (1965), conducting enquiries and inspections of primary co-operative societies for which he acts as Registrar, and liquidating and winding up the inefficient and uneconomic societies. He endeavours to establish a link between credit and non-credit societies, provides credit for seeds, manures, agricultural implements and essential consumer goods, as also marketing facilities. He is assisted by a marketing inspector and five Co-operative Extension Officers posted at the headquarters of the Panchayat Samitis at Nagaur, Degana, Merta, Didwana and Makrana. There is a separate Assistant Registrar for industries headquartered at Nagaur whose jurisdiction extends to Nagaur and Churu districts.

District Soldiers', Sailors' & Airmen's Board

Established in December 1958 and headquartered at Nagaur, the Board looks after² the welfare of the serving soldiers, the ex-servicemen and their dependents. It has drawn up a scheme for setting up colonies at the district and tahsil levels for the army personnels and efforts are afoot to get agricultural land allotted for the resettlement of ex-servicemen in the Rajasthan Canal area.

The staff of the Board comprised one secretary, two clerks, one welfare organisor and one peon. The Board is under the administrative control of the State's Revenue Department.

Economics and Statistics Department

A branch of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics headquartered at Jaipur, is set up at Bikaner in Bikaner district and is headed³ by a District Statistician. The district of Nagaur falls under the jurisdiction of this officer who is responsible for collection, compilation and transmission to the headquarters at Jaipur, of all statistical data relating to various aspects of the economy of the district. He collects data and compiles statistics in respect of (1) District Plan Progress Reports, (2) District

1. Source: Office of the Assistant Registrar of Co-operative, Societies Nagaur.

2. Source: Office of the Secretary, Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Board, Nagaur.

3. Since 1970, a separate office of the District Statistician has been set up at Nagaur.

Statistical Outlines, (3) Quarterly Progress Reports of Panchayat Samitis, (4) Municipal Year Book, (5) Annual Survey of Industries, (6) Vital Statistics: (i) Municipalities, (ii) Panchayat Samitis, (iii) Sample Registration (Rural & Urban) and Half Yearly Surveys, (7) Cinema Statistics, (8) Printing Presses and Publications' statistics, (9) Small scale industries survey, (10) census of government employees, (11) Annual Administration Reports, (12) agricultural wages, (13) Type studies, (14) training and supervision of crop cutting experiments, (15) collection of prices of (i) agricultural products, (ii) animal husbandry products, (16) national sample survey, (17) other statistics relating to Nagaur district. He is assisted in his work by an assistant, a computer, a clerk and a peon.

Food Department

The District Supply Office¹ which was set up in Nagaur in March 1964 is responsible for making available to the public controlled articles at fixed prices and in fixed quantities such as sugar, rice, kerosene, *khand-sari*, vegetable oils, through the government run-shops, co-operative stores and privately run fair-price shops or licensed dealers. This office is headed by the District Supply Officer who ensures enforcement of various orders pertaining to these controlled commodities and also keeps the government abreast of the market situation. He also keeps a watch on the movement of cereals from one district to another.

The District Supply Officer, although under the Food Commissioner, Rajasthan, at Jaipur, acts directly under the supervision of the Collector and is assisted in his work at the district level by an Enforcement Officer, two Enforcement Inspectors, an accountant, ten clerks and four class IV employees. In all the tahsils, the tahsildars act as Supply Officers within their jurisdictions, except in Nagaur tahsil where the supply work is directly under the control of the District Supply Officer. The field staff of the District Supply Officer consists of ten clerks of whom six are posted in Jayal, Merta and Parvatsar tahsils (two in each) and four in Didwana, Degana, Ladnun and Nawa tahsils (one in each). There were 140 fair price shops in the district in 1969-70.

Industries Department

The work of the Industries Department in the district² is being looked after by the Project Officer whose office was set up in 1963 at Nagaur. He is responsible for implementing government policy of rural industrialisation and development of small scale industries. Loans are advanced

1. Source: Office of the District Supply Officer, Nagaur.

2. Source: Office of the Project Officer (Industries) Nagaur.

for the development of crafts and small units of industries in the rural areas, such as black-smithy, carpentry, cement works, marble industry, emery *chakkis*, lime kilns, manufacture of *ayurvedic* medicines, handicrafts, leatherwork, manufacture of weights and balances, manufacture of soap, ivory articles, hosiery, ready-made garments, nylon buttons, plastic ware and *bidi* industry etc. The office runs training centres to impart instruction in *ban* (rope making) and *muddha* making (reed chair) at Makrana, and in weaving at Mundwa. Industrial exhibitions are also held to acquaint people with new techniques in industries.

The Project Officer is under the administrative control and supervision of the Director of Industries. He is assisted by one Planning-cum-Survey Officer, six Extension Officers, three Technical Officers, two economic investigators, one salt inspector and a complement of ministerial and class IV staff

The Project Officer also acts as an ex-officio Assistant Controller of Weights and Measures and is responsible for ensuring the implementation of the provisions of Weights and Measures Act 1958, and the rules made thereunder in his jurisdiction. He is assisted by requisite staff consisting of Inspector (Weights & Measures) and assistant inspectors in this work.

Labour Department

There are three units of this department in the district, Industrial Training Institute, Employment Exchange and the office of the Labour Inspector.

The Industrial Training Institute¹, headed by a Superintendent, was set up in November 1962 at Nagaur, for running courses in various engineering trades, viz., electrical fitting, moulding, pattern making, motor mechanic, machinist, carpentry, welding, and black-smithy, and thus to provide trained technicians for various industries and technical units. The intake capacity of the institute which was 64 in 1962-63 was raised to 252 in 1964-65 but was lowered to 124 in 1968-69 due to growing unemployment amongst this category of technicians. The out-turn of the trained personnel from the institute was 347 between 1962-63 and 1969-70.

Besides the Superintendent, the staff of the institute consists of one foreman, nine crafts instructors, one medical officer (part-time), two instructors for drawing and mathematics (part-time), one compounder, four clerks, a hostel superintendent-cum-physical training instructor, one motor-driver, three workshop attendants and nine class IV employees.

1. Source: Office of the Superintendent, Industrial Training Institute, Nagaur.

The District Employment Officer¹ stationed at Nagaur is in charge of the Employment Exchange which was set up in 1960. The officer assists those who need employment to find suitable jobs and also helps employers in getting suitable personnels. The staff of the office consists, besides the District Employment Officer, of a Junior Employment Officer, four clerks and two class IV employees.

The office of the Labour Inspector was set up in 1965 at Nagaur in order to enforce various labour laws. He works directly under the control of the Regional Assistant Labour Commissioner, headquartered at Jodhpur.

The inspector at Nagaur is assisted by a clerk and a peon in his work.

Medical and Health Department²

The office of the District Medical and Health Officer, set up in April 1951 at Nagaur, is responsible for the prevention, control and treatment of diseases in the district. The officer works directly under the Director of Medical and Health Services, Rajasthan, headquartered at Jaipur and exercises administrative supervision over all the subordinate medical institutions in the district. He is responsible for the implementation of the various schemes pertaining to medical and health relief in the district. So far the following schemes have been taken up under his supervision in the district: National Trachoma Control Programme (implemented for one year only in 1966-67); National Malaria Eradication Programme (taken from Malaria Medical Officer during the maintenance phase in 1966 and then transferred in September 1969 to the Malaria Medical Officer Bikaner and Additional District Health Officer Ratanagarh); National Small Pox Eradication Programme (taken up in 1963 and continuing with some minor changes in the administrative set up); and Family Planning Programme (scheme was transferred to District Family Planning Officer later on).

The District Medical Officer is assisted in administrative work by an office assistant, two clerks and three class IV employees. The ministerial staff of the hospital at Nagaur consists of five clerks and 14 class IV employees while the hospital at Ladnun has two clerks and 13 class IV staff.

The allopathic hospitals under this department are described in chapter XVI.

The office of the District Health Officer³ set up as a separate office.

1. Source: Office of the District Employment Officer, Nagaur.

2. Source: Office of the Chief Medical and Health Officer, Nagaur.

3. Office of the District Health Officer, Nagaur.

in 1959, is responsible for promotion of public health, prevention of epidemics and control of the communicable diseases. The officer checks the pharmaceutical drugs, prohibits the sale of spurious edibles and rotten fruits, ensures the maintenance of hygienic and sanitary conditions and above all, educates the public in matters concerning their health. Besides, he has been entrusted since 1966, with the task of implementing the National Small Pox Eradication Programme through primary and re-vaccinations. For the prevention of communicable diseases such as cholera and typhoid, inoculation of the population and disinfection of wells and ponds are carried out.

The District Health Officer is assisted by a health educator, two inspectors, eleven vaccinators, two clerks, three drivers and eight class IV staff.

To plan the growth of population, the District Family Planning Bureau¹ is entrusted with the task of educating the people on the methods of family planning and disseminating knowledge about birth control devices. It is headed by a District Family Planning Officer and has several Sections namely, Administrative Division headed by an Administrative Officer; Education and Information Division in the charge of an Education and Publicity Officer, Sterilisation Unit (Mobile) under a Civil Assistant Surgeon; Field Operation and Evaluation Division under a Statistical Assistant; Mobile Unit for handling intrauterus contraceptive devices under a Civil Assistant Surgeon; Static Sterilisation Units, one each at Nagaur, Didwana and Ladnun, under the charge of Civil Assistant Surgeons; Urban Family Planning Centres (one each at Nagaur, Ladnun and Makrana) under the charge of Civil Assistant Surgeons; Rural Family Planning Centres, eleven in all, under the Civil Assistant Surgeons and lastly, five Maternity and Child Welfare Centres, under the Civil Assistant Surgeons. The sanctioned strength of staff during 1969-70 for the Bureau was: District Family Planning and Maternity Child Health Officer (1); Administrative Officer (1); Civil Assistant Surgeons (22); Family Planning Education and Publicity Officer (1); clerks (20); artist (1); Projectionist (1); Statistical Assistant, (1), staff nurses (4), computers (12), urban family planning welfare workers (6), Family Planning Extension Educators (6), Lady Health Visitors (17), Block Extension Educators (11), Family Planning Health Assistants (44), Auxiliary Nurse, Midwife (59), *Dais* (3), drivers (3), cleaners (2), theatre attendants (4) and class IV staff (8).

District Treasury Office

The Treasury Office², set up in 1949 at Nagaur, is responsible

1. Source: Office of the District Family Planning Bureau, Nagaur.

2. Source: District Treasury Office, Nagaur.

for keeping accounts of all government receipts and expenditure in the district. The Treasury Officer orders payment on all valid bills sent by the disbursing and drawing officers of the various departments in the district. He also disburses pensions to the retired government servants, deposits government dues, makes payments of the jagir bonds, issues judicial and non-judicial stamps to the stamp vendors on payment and exercises control over the seven sub-treasuries located at Didwana, Ladnun, Nawa, Parvatsar, Degana, Merta and Jayal in the district. The Treasury Officer is assisted in his work by an accountant, 15 clerks and four class IV employees. In the sub-treasuries, the work is done by the staff of the tahsil except at Didwana and Parvatsar where additional clerk, one at each place, has been provided for disposal of pension work.

Though the office is under the administrative control of the Chief Accounts Officer for Rajasthan, headquartered at Jaipur, it functions directly under the immediate supervision of the Collector of the district.

Public Health Engineering Department¹

The office of the Executive Engineer (PHED), which is under the jurisdiction of Superintending Engineer, Jodhpur Circle, was set up in Nagaur in July 1969 to execute schemes of extending rural and urban water supply in the district. Recently, however, Ladnun tahsil has been put under the Executive Engineer, Churu Division and a new Division at Merta has been created.

For administrative purposes, Nagaur Division headed by an Executive Engineer, is divided into three sub-divisions: Nagaur, Didwana and Kuchaman Road, each under an Assistant Engineer. In addition to the engineering personnels the staff of the divisional office consists of divisional accountant (1), draftsmen (2), foreman (1), clerks (6), store-keeper (1), computer (1), and class IV employees (2), while the strength of the staff in the sub-divisional offices is as below:

Cadre	Nagaur sub-division	Kuchaman Road sub-division	Didwana sub-division
Assistant Engineer	1	1	1
Engineering subordinates	3	3	5
Clerks	6	2	2
Meter readers	1	—	—
Fitters	1	—	—

1. Source : Office of the Executive Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, Nagaur.

1	2	3	4
Pump drivers	5	—	—
Helpers	6	—	—
Class IV servants	3	—	1

The jurisdiction of Nagaur sub-division extends to the tahsils of Jayal and Nagaur, while the Kuchaman Road sub-division controls the work in the areas covered by Nawa tahsil and a part of Parvatsar tahsil. Likewise, Didwana sub-division looks after the work in Didwana tahsil and a part of Ladnun tahsil.

Public Relations Department¹

The office of the District Public Relations Officer, headquartered at Nagaur, was opened in the year 1958-59. The District Public Relations officer functions directly under the Director of Public Relations headquartered at Jaipur. He maintains liaison with the government offices on the one hand and the general public on the other, and obtains day to day information of the happenings in the district and forwards them to the headquarters at Jaipur for possible press release or air broadcast. He is also responsible for giving publicity to the government policies, programmes and achievements especially of development under the Five Year Plans. These are publicised through audio-visual aides or posters or organised functions.

The staff in the office, besides the Public Relations Officer, consists of a clerk, a cine-machine operator, a driver for publicity van, a cleaner and two peons.

Public Works Department (Buildings & Roads)²

Two offices of the Assistant Engineer, one at Nagaur and the other at Didwana town, both under the control of the Executive Engineer (West Division) headquartered at Jodhpur, are functioning in the district. The office of the Executive Engineer, in turn, is controlled by the Superintending Engineer, Jodhpur which has jurisdiction over the adjoining districts of Sirohi, Jalor, Barmer, Pali, Jodhpur, Jaisalmer and Nagaur.

The Assistant Engineer, Nagaur, exercises jurisdiction over the areas covered by the tahsils of Nagaur, Merta, Degana and a part of Jayal, while the jurisdiction of the Assistant Engineer stationed at Didwana extends to the areas covered by the tahsils of Parvatsar, Nawa, Didwana,

1. Source : Office of the Public Relations Officer, Nagaur.

2. Source : Offices of the Assistant Engineer, PWD (B&R), Nagaur and Didwana.

Ladnun and a part of Jayal. The Assistant Engineer at each place, is assisted by one Junior Engineer, three overseers and necessary ministerial class IV staff.

The department is mainly responsible for the construction and maintenance of roads and government buildings and their maintenance; valuation of rented buildings, recovery of rent of government buildings, preparation of designs and plans of the roads, bridges, culverts, causeway canals, drains etc. are also under its charge. It also provides technical guidance to Panchayat Samitis. Recently, the department has been authorised to allot accommodation in the dak bungalows and rest houses maintained by it to the touring government officers, a function formerly assigned to the Collector and the sub-divisional officers. The department maintains one dak bungalow at Nagaur and five rest houses at Merta, Nawa, Didwana, Parvatsar and Makrana. The dak bungalow and the rest house at Merta are controlled by the Assistant Engineer, Nagaur while the rest fall under the jurisdiction of the Assistant Engineer at Didwana.

Some of the important buildings constructed by the department are: Collectorate complex and its extension, P.W.D. office, dak bungalow and residential government buildings (all at Nagaur), the court complex at Merta city, Munsif's Court at Parvatsar, Bangar hospital, extension of Bangar college, high school building (all at Didwana) and the sheep breeding farm at Bakauliya.

Sheep and Wool Department¹

The work of sheep and wool development in the district is looked after by the District Sheep and Wool Officer. His office, which was set up in January 1964 at Nagaur is entrusted with various tasks, such as to procure wool and supply it to the wool grading centre at Bikaner; to carry out the ram raising and other allied schemes, to control diseases and restrict the haphazard raising of the breeds, to provide facilities for sheep husbandry and to persuade the sheep farmers to register their flocks for private farms.

To achieve these objectives, the district office has set up a complete network of organisations stretching right up to the tahsil and Panchayat Samiti levels. In September 1964, eight centres were opened, one each at Nagaur, Mundwa, Merta, Merta Road, Degana, Parvatsar, Kuchaman and Ladnun and after six months, in March 1965, another five centres were set up at Riyan, Kheenwasar, Didwana, Jayal and Makrana. At the district headquarters, besides the District Sheep and Wool Officer the

1. Source : Office of the District Sheep and Wool Officer, Nagaur.

staff consists of an Assistant District Sheep and Wool Officer, three clerks, a driver and two peons. Each of the thirteen extension centres has uniformly a staff comprising an accounts clerk, two stock assistants, a camel *sowar* and two shepherds. Besides, there are Extension Officers at six centres, namely, Mundwa, Merta Road, Merta, Parvatsar, Riyan and Ladnun while at the remaining seven places, the work is supervised by the supervisors.

The department executes two schemes in the district to increase wool production viz., (a) integrated scheme of wool purchase from the sheep farmers which includes shearing of sheep by modern machines and primary grading of wool, and (b) carrying out improved methods of sheep husbandry, sheep farming and disease control. Experiments are also carried out at sheep breeding farm at Bakauliya in Ladnun tahsil, to produce cross-breed progeny by mating local sheep with foreign merino.

Social Welfare Department

The office¹ of the District Probation and Social Welfare Officer which was set up in July 1967 caters to the promotion of welfare of the backward classes of the society in execution of the policies and directives of the department. The office runs three hostels-two for Scheduled Castes at Nagaur and Degana, and one for the notified tribes, at Ladnun. The boys admitted to these hostels are provided free board and lodging facilities as also other perquisites. The office also grants aid to six hostels, maintained for the backward classes and located at Nagaur, Jayal, Parvatsar, Didwana and Ladnun.

In addition to the District Probation and Social Welfare Officer the staff including those working in the hostels and training centre, consists of three hostel superintendents, two part-time *Vaidyas*, four part-time and one full time teachers, one tailoring instructor, two clerks and ten class IV employees.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENTS

Central Excise Department²

Two inspectors of the Central Excise Department are posted in the district, one at Nagaur and the other at Kuchaman. They are responsible for realisation of excise on tobacco, vegetable non-edible oils, copper and alloys, asbestos, aluminium and cement products etc. in their jurisdiction. Both the inspectors work under the control of a superintendent, headquartered at Bikaner.

1. Source: Office of the District Probation & Social Welfare Officer, Nagaur.

2. Source: Offices of the Inspectors, Central Excise, Nagaur and Kuchaman.

Income Tax Department¹

The office of Income Tax Officer 'A' ward was set up at Nagaur in May 1966 and that of 'B' ward in 1967. Income Tax officers are entrusted with the work of assessment and collection of income, wealth and gift tax from individuals, Hindu undivided families, registered and unregistered firms, associations of persons, co-operative societies, local bodies and corporations other than companies. The staff in these two offices consists, besides the two Income tax officers, one inspector, one head clerk, nine clerks, two stenographers, two notice-servers and a complement of class IV employees. The Inspecting Assistant Commissioner of Income Tax, Bikaner Range, headquartered at Bikaner, is the immediate controlling officer.

National Savings Organisation

The District Organiser² of this department posted in the district is entrusted with the task of popularising and giving wider publicity to the various schemes of small savings. He appoints agents; addresses meetings and *shiyirs* to acquaint the public with the savings schemes and the benefits accruing from them; contacts official and non-official agencies for promotion of the scheme; and receives money for investment in savings certificates. The gross and net collections made by the office in the district during 1961 to 1970 are tabulated below:

Year	Gross collection	(Rs. in '000)
		Net collection
1961-62	1116	485
1962-63	695	3
1963-64	891	383
1964-65	764	173
1965-66	1091	397
1966-67	1758	672
1967-68	2040	942
1968-69	1703	88
1969-70	1561	(-) 48

1. Source: Office of the Income tax Officer, Nagaur.

2. Source: Office of the District Organiser, National Savings Scheme, Nagaur.

Post and Telegraph Department¹

The Superintendent of Postal Services, Jodhpur Division, headquartered at Jodhpur, controls the post offices of this district and is assisted by three inspectors with necessary staff who are posted in the district. The Sub-Divisional Officer of Telegraphs, and the Sub-Divisional Officer Telephone, both stationed at Jodhpur, supervise the working of telegraph offices and telephones in the district.

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1. Source: Office of the Superintendent of Post Offices, Jodhpur.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

MUNICIPALITIES

Historical Background

As already mentioned, the district of Nagaur was carved out of the areas which were once a part of the Jodhpur State. The town of Nagaur, which was the seat of *Hakumat* of the same name, was declared a municipality in 1913 with the local *Hakim* as its President and the representatives of the important communities as its members. They were nominated by the *Mahakma Khas* of the State, out of the panels recommended by the principal communities of the town. Municipalities of Didwana and Ladnun were constituted in 1920 and 1933 respectively. It is significant that Ladnun was the first jagir area in whole of the Jodhpur State where such an institution was established.

In course of time, other local officers, besides the *Hakim*, were also associated with the municipalities. In 1933, Nagaur municipality had thirteen non-official representatives with the *Hakim* as President and the Sub-Assistant Surgeon as an ex-officio member¹. The Didwana municipality had 14 members of whom 12 were non-officials and three officials, namely the *Hakim* as its President and the Sub-Assistant Surgeon of the dispensary and the Customs' *Daroga*, as its ordinary members. The Ladnun *thikana* municipality, set up during the same year consisted of 22 non-official members, with the *thakur* of Ladnun as its President and the Sub-Assistant Surgeon acting as its Secretary and as Health Officer.

In the beginning, these municipalities looked after the work of sanitation and lighting and granted permission for the construction of the buildings in the town. In case of refusal to grant such permission appeal against the orders of the municipality lay with the *Mahakma Khas*. All these municipalities were self-supporting and they raised the necessary funds² from terminal tax on goods received by rail and road. The tax on goods brought by road was introduced during 1933-34 in order to discourage competition with the railways and to prevent loss of revenue to the municipalities by such competition. At the same time, goods brought

1. *The Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1933-34*, Jodhpur (1935), pp. 37-38.
2. *ibid.*, pp. 35-36.

to the railway station by train, for transmission to villages outside the town without breaking bulk, were exempted from payment of the tax.

In course of time, the number of non-official members increased, and the system of nomination was replaced by that of election in 1942 at Nagaur and Ladnun and in 1943 at Didwana.

The sanitation arrangements at Merta were provided by the Government of Jodhpur before the setting up of municipality in 1946. In the same year another municipality was constituted at Nawa.

Thus, before the formation of the present district in 1949, there were five municipalities in Nagaur, Didwana, Ladnun, Merta and Nawa towns. In 1951, the Rajasthan Town Municipalities Act was passed which defined the powers and functions of these institutions. Later on, municipalities were set up at Parvatsar, Kuchaman and Makrana. In 1959, the Rajasthan Municipal Act was passed whereby the municipalities in the towns and cities were brought under uniform pattern visualised in the Act.

Under the Act the term of the municipalities is fixed for three years unless extended for specific reasons. The elections are held on the basis of adult franchise and through secret ballot. The municipal area is divided into several wards, which are notified in the official gazette and one member is elected from each ward. Women and the members of Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes are given special representation. Two women members are co-opted by the elected members if no woman has been returned through elections. The elected and co-opted members then elect a Chairman and a Vice-chairman from amongst themselves. For the sake of administrative convenience and efficiency, several committees or sub-committees consisting of the members of the municipal committee are formed and particular field is assigned to each of them e. g. sub-committee for sanitation or lighting or roads or house-building.

Every municipality in the district has an Executive Officer who is appointed by the Government, from amongst the members of the Rajasthan Municipal Service.

The municipalities are empowered to levy the following taxes: Obligatory—house tax, octroi duty and tax on professions and callings; Optional—tax on vehicles, a toll on vehicle and conveyances, on boats and conservancy services. To enhance the revenue of the municipalities, the government also advances loans and grants subsidies for financing specific schemes and projects.

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1. Source: Office of the Municipality, Nagaur. Also *Municipal Year Books, Nagarpalika Samank*, Published by Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Rajasthan Jaipur.

Present Set-up

NAGOUR MUNICIPALITY—During the pre-merger period, the office of the municipality was a part of the *Hakumat* and its meetings used to be held there. Around 1951, it was shifted to a rented building and again to a building built by a local *Seth* of Nagaur in 1962 where it continued till 1969. A new building is under construction for it near the Collectorate. The area of the town is 31.94 sq. km.

The first elections to the municipality were held in 1955. The town was divided into 15 wards for election purposes and each ward returned one member. Besides, the Government nominated two members, namely, a woman and a member of Scheduled Castes. The second elections were held in 1958, the number of members remaining the same as in the first elections. These members continued till 1962 when the Board was dissolved and an Administrator appointed by the government. The third elections were held in 1964. The town was divided into 16 wards but two wards had double members. Thus the total number of members returned was 18 in addition to the two nominated women members. This Board continued till 1967 except that by-elections were held for four wards in 1966. In 1967, after the dissolution of the Board, an Administrator was again appointed by the government. In 1971 elections were again held and the town was divided into 16 wards, two being double-member wards. Sixty-two candidates contested the elections. The total electorate was 17,391. A total of 14,582 votes were polled of which 14,353 were valid. This newly constituted Board now continues functioning.

The work in the municipality has been divided into five sections—public health and sanitation, street lighting, taxation, establishment and horticulture. Besides the Executive Officer, the staff consists of an assessor, an Inspector of taxes, a sanitary inspector, nine office clerks, an overseer, a garden inspector, a light, *mistri* a carpenter, two drivers, an incharge of the library, five tax collectors, nineteen *naib*-tax collectors, a pump driver, six helpers for gardening, two helpers for lighting, three development gang helpers, five office peons, ten chowkidars and 108 sanitary staff.

LIGHTING—The Rajasthan State Electricity Board has its power station in the town and it supplies electricity for the street lighting which is the responsibility of the municipality. The latter has installed 33 mercury lamps, 135 tube lights and 1,128 bulbs on the street lamp-posts. Till 1968-69, 50 petromax and 132 kerosine lanterns were lit for street lighting in addition to the electric lighting. This year, the number has reduced to 20 and 110 respectively.

WATER SUPPLY—Till 1966, the Water Works establishment was under the control of the municipality when it was transferred to the Water Works Department of the Rajasthan Government. The town has protected water supply. There are 114 water stands in the public places installed by the municipality but only 42 are in working order. The water charges are borne by the municipality though the water supply is made by the Water Works Department. The water to the gardens and public park is supplied from the Baba-ki-kui owned by the municipality.

SANITATION AND DRAINAGE—The sanitation work is supervised by a sanitary inspector. There are 108 sweepers who are deputed in different wards for sweeping the streets and lanes of the town. The municipality also maintains four public urinals and 29 latrines in the town. The construction of drains is supervised by an overseer. Open pukka drains have been laid in the town.

OTHERS—The municipality maintains two parks known as public park and the Nehru Bal Udyan and runs a montessory school and a library. It also gives aid to a private school in the town by way of meeting expenditure on rent.

In order to promote the welfare of the Harijans of the town the municipality has given them land at a very nominal rate of one rupee per plot and free stones for constructing the boundary.

The births and deaths are also registered by the municipality. In recent years, the number has been recorded as under:

Year	Birth	Death
1965	534	16
1966	174	10
1967	488	12
1968	17	64
1969	15	45

The main sources of revenue of the municipality are: house tax and land tax, octroi, copying, sale of compost, sale of bones, rent of road rollers, auction of flowers, cattle pound, sale of land etc. The items of expenditure include: salary to the staff and office establishment, charges of street lighting and water supply, water hut, drainage, road constructions and their repairs and maintenance, public entertainment and cultural programme, Harijan welfare, etc. The income and expenditure of the municipality for the last six years ending with 1969-70 are given below:

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Income	Expenditure
1964-65	407	407
1965-66	425	483
1966-67	406	415
1967-68	403	369
1968-69	509	502
1969-70	529	492

DIDWANA MUNICIPALITY¹—As has been mentioned earlier, this municipality was also constituted in 1920 during the princely regime. After the formation of Rajasthan, the first elections were to be held but they were stayed under the orders of the Rajasthan High Court whereupon an Adhoc committee was appointed by the government to run the municipality. It lasted till November 1952 after which a regular Board was constituted with eight elected and two nominated members. The second elections were held in 1956 when the town was divided into ten wards each electing one member; and two members were nominated. The Board functioned till about middle of July 1959 when acute differences arose among its members and an Administrator had to be appointed by the government. The third elections were held in December 1963 and this time the number of elected members rose to 12 (from 11 wards) in addition to the two nominated (women). The Board was formed in January 1964 but was dissolved by the Government in October 1965 for exceeding its powers and the tahsildar was appointed as the Administrator. The Board approached the High Court against the orders of the government which were quashed by the court, and consequently the Board again came to the office in April 1966. The term of this Board expired in January 1967 and thereafter an Administrator was appointed by the Government. Elections were again held in June 1971. There were eleven wards, one of which returned two members. Thirty-five candidates contested for the 12 seats. The total number of votes was 12,160 but that of polled was only 8,623 of which 8,342 were valid. This newly constituted board now continues to function. The municipality has no office building of its own, it is therefore housed in a rented building. The town has an area of 65.81 sq. km. and its population is 13,547.

It looks after sanitation, public health, lighting, water-supply, construction and maintenance of roads in the town and grants permission

1. Source : Office of the Municipality, Didwana. Also *Municipal Year Books (Nagarpalika Samank)* for various years, published by Directorate of Economics & Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

to construct buildings according to the approved plans. Besides one Executive Officer, its staff consists of Octroi Inspector (1), office clerks (3), nakedars (2), sub-nakedars (8), naka-guards (6), jamadars (2), moharrir (1), office peons (3), driver (1), bhishti (2), sweepers, (38, of whom 10 are women).

LIGHTING—The municipality has provided 193 electric lamps and 70 tube-lights in public places and on the street lamp-posts. The electricity is supplied by the power house maintained by the Rajasthan State Electricity Board but the expenses are defrayed by the municipality.

WATER SUPPLY—The town has protected (chlorinated) water supply since 1954 which is made available from a village Daulatpura. The water works (capacity 40,000 gallons) is owned by the government and the municipality meets the expenses incurred on the public hydrants. The daily average supply to the town is about 1,25,000 gallons. The municipality maintains 16 public stand posts, two cart hydrants, two cattle troughs and two fire hydrants.

SANITATION—The municipality employs two Jamadars and 38 sweepers for street sanitation. It also maintains three urinals and four latrines in the public places. The municipality maintains a pacca surface nullah (about 450 metres) which acts as drainage for the town.

BIRTHS AND DEATHS—The municipality also records the vital statistics of the town. There is no separate staff engaged for this work. The following statement gives the figures of the births and deaths since 1960.

(No.)

Year	Birth	Death
1960	46	77
1961	63	92
1962	148	36
1963	214	28
1964	388	39
1965	156	46
1966	100	59
1967	419	64
1968	72	84
1969	36	55

OTHERS—It also maintains a public park, a children's park and a school. At important places, it has set up public urinals and latrines. It

gives aid to a local library and has constructed a school building in the *Harijan basti*. It has provided the *Harijan* with wheeled barrows for the carriage of garbage, and got a sum sanctioned from the Social Welfare Department in 1962, and again in 1969, for the construction of houses for their families.

The sources of income of the municipality are: house tax, octroi, licence fees for the sale of meat, copying fees, certificates of births and deaths, licences of *Chhakra*, sale of compost, auction of bones, cattle pound, food licences, entertainment tax, ration card, sale of land etc. The items of expenditure include salary of the staff and other establishment charges, rent of the buildings, publicity, water and electricity charges, contractual and money for drawing water out of the wells etc. The following table gives the figures of income and expenditure of the municipality for the last few years:

(Rs. in '000)		
Year	Income	Expenditure
1964-65	132	132
1965-66	134	137
1966-67	114	108
1967-68	154	145
1968-69	140	135
1969-70	342	342

LADNUN MUNICIPALITY¹—The population and area of the town, according to 1961 Census were 23,825 persons and 61.28 sq. km. respectively. This was the only municipality established in a jagir area in the whole of Jodhpur State and was set up in 1933. The jagirdar agreed to its establishment on the stipulated conditions that he will always be its President, that the members will not be elected but nominated by him from amongst the various castes and, that the jagirdar will have the final say in all matters. In 1948 with the installation of a popular government in the Jodhpur State, these conditions were relaxed and elections were held for the members and the President was also elected.

After the formation of Rajasthan, the first elections were held in 1953. The town was divided into five wards, each returning three members. Later, the number of wards increased to 19 but in the last election in 1963, the number was reduced to 17 one of which being double-member

1. Source: Office of the Municipality, Ladnun. Also *Municipal Year Books (Nagar-palika Samank)* for various years.

ward, and thus eighteen members were returned. Its term expired in January 1967 and therefore it was dissolved by the government and an Administrator was appointed. Elections were again held in 1970 and the town was divided into 17 wards, one being double-member ward. Forty-two candidates contested the election. The total electorate was 15,252 but the number of those who polled votes was only 9,939 and the number of valid votes was 9,052. This newly constituted Board continues to function.

The municipality is housed in a rented building. It is entrusted with the task of making sanitary, lighting and water supply arrangements maintaining the vital statistics in the town, removing and disposing of the dead animals, maintenance, construction and naming the public road in the town, maintaining the public urinals and latrines, numbering the dwellings, maintaining the cattle pounds, removing obstacles prejudicial to public health and lastly maintaining a volunteer force for public safety. It is divided into five sections—accounts, tax collection, sanitation, establishment and administration.

SANITATION—The municipality maintains a staff of two jamadars and 58 sweepers who look after the sanitation work of the town.

WATER SUPPLY—The water is supplied by the water works set up in the town in 1965 by the government, but a substantial amount (2.85 lakhs) towards its construction was donated by a local Trust. The municipality maintains 34 public hydrants.

LIGHTING—Likewise, the supply of electricity is the responsibility of Rajasthan State Electricity Board, but the municipality is meeting the cost of mercury lights, 157 tube lights and 52 bulbs which it is maintaining in the important public places and streets.

OTHERS—The development works executed by the municipality in recent years include a stadium and a play-ground, roads in the town, children's park with the public donation and government aid, waiting rooms, a *piao* and Ashok pillar constructed at the bus stand through public contributions, and lastly erection of Gandhi's statue and a platform in Gandhi Chowk.

The vital statistics recorded by the municipality since 1965 are given below:

Year	Birth	(No.) Death
1965	713	95
1966	395	73

1	2	3
1967	617	106
1968	262	60
1969	170	71

The staff of the municipality includes besides the Executive Officer, two nakedars, three sub-nakedars, two tax-guards, two jamadars, an inspector, a gardener, two clerks, two moharrirs, two peons, a chowkidar and fifty eight Harijans.

The main sources of income of the municipality are: octroi, house tax, sale of land, vehicle licences fee, food licence fee and government aid, while its expenditure is constituted by the following items: salary of the staff, water and electricity charges, and developmental work. The figures of income and expenditure of the municipality of the last five years are as below:

(Rs. in '000)		
Year	Income	Expenditure
1964-65	162	162
1965-66	114	128
1966-67	189	159
1967-68	148	166
1968-69	130	143
1969-70	158	145

NAWA MUNICIPALITY¹—The town has an area of 34.47 sq. km. and a population of 8,097 persons according to 1961 Census. The municipality was established here on November 1, 1946 during the princely regime. As has been mentioned earlier, the members were all nominated in the beginning and the local *Hakim* used to be the President. Its first elections were held three years later in 1949, but due to complaints against the Chairman, an Ad-hoc Committee was appointed by the government in its place but it was declared *ultra vires* by the Rajasthan High Court on a writ petition filed by the displaced members. The Ad-hoc Committee was accordingly dissolved and in its place, the tahsildar was appointed as an Administrator. This order of appointment was also challenged. In the meanwhile the boundaries of the municipal limits were defined in 1954, and soon after, fresh elections were held on a single-member constituency basis, although in the previous elections the town was divided into seven

1. Source: Office of the Municipality, Nawa. Also *Municipal Year Books (Nagar-palika Samank)* for various years.

wards. However, in the last elections held in September 1966, there were eight wards, (two being double-member wards) returning ten members in all in addition to the two women members who were to be co opted. But before the co option took place, the Rajasthan High Court issued a stay order in response to writ petitions. The stay is still effective and the Administrator appointed by the government in July 1966, looks after the affairs of the municipality.

The municipality was housed in a rented accommodation till 1966 when it built its own premises in Nehru Bal Bhawan and moved to that place. It looks after the sanitation, lighting, maintenance of roads in the town and their repairs, water supply and public health. There are about 750 metres of drainage in the town.

SANITATION—The sanitation work is looked after by a jamadar and 13 sweepers working under him. It maintains four public latrines. The streets are cleaned twice a day while the main roads are cleaned as many times a day as necessary. The garbage is removed to the outskirts in a buffalo-cart.

LIGHTING—The electric station in the town is run by the Rajasthan State Electricity Board and the municipality has provided and pays for 80 street lamps and 12 tube-lights from its own funds.

OTHERS—It maintains a total of about eight kilometres of road in the town, 28 water taps and has built a school building, a Bal Bhawan, four children parks, two gardens, water-works and two *dharmashalas*.

Its staff includes, besides the Executive Officer, office clerks (3), nakedars (3), sub-nakedars (2), a jamadar, gardeners (2), peons (2) and Harijans (11). There is no separate staff for maintaining records of vital statistics and the work is entrusted to one of the clerks. The following statement gives the number of birth and death recorded by the municipality since 1954 :

Year	(No.)	
	Birth	Death
1954	5	—
1955	29	28
1956	14	12
1957	70	23
1958	39	17
1959	13	13
1960	11	14
1961	34	35

1	2	3
1962	107	39
1963	220	90
1964	323	81
1965	275	65
1966	178	64
1967	259	68
1968	122	53
1969	92	59

Its main sources of income are : vehicle tax, sale of bones and compost, octroi, house and land tax, licence fee from flour mills, cattle pounds, sale of land, grant of birth and death certificates, government grants etc. The main items of expenditure are the salary of the staff and office establishment, water and electric charges and developmental work. The following table gives the income and expenditure of the municipality for the last six years ending with 1969-70.

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Income	Expenditure
1964-65	84	84
1965-66	133	112
1966-67	80	72
1967-68	59	57
1968-69	61	48
1969-70	54	54

MAKRANA MUNICIPALITY¹—The municipality is housed in a rented building and has 14 wards, one of which being a double-member ward. It has an area of 33.18 sq. km. and a population of 17,270 persons according to 1961 Census. The term of the last Board expired in January 1967 and then an Administrator was appointed by the government to look after its work.

Elections were again held in October 1970. The town was divided into 14 wards, one of which was double-member ward. Forty-five candidates contested the elections. The electorate was 11,698 but only 8,012 voters went to the polls. One of the candidates was returned uncontested. Fifty-seven votes were rejected. The newly constituted Board now continues functioning.

1. Source: Office of the Municipality, Makrana, *Asio Municipal Year Books (Nagar-palika Samank)* for various years.

Its important sections are : tax collection, administration, public health and sanitation, and horticulture. The staff (1969-70) of the municipality consists of an Executive Officer, an assistant revenue inspector, office clerks (6), Octroi clerks (12), chowkidars (3), a gardener, waterman (2), peons (3), jamadars (2), *thela* pullers (3) and sweepers (30).

SANITATION—The municipality has employed two jamadars and 30 sweepers for the sanitation work. Two wheel barrows and five bullock-carts are used for removing the garbage from the town.

LIGHTING—Before 1960, the kerosine lamps were used for lighting the streets but due to introduction of electric supply during that year, the use of kerosine lamps was discontinued gradually so much so that after 1967, only electric bulbs are being used for the purpose. In 1969-70, there were 154 electric points maintained by the Board for the street lighting.

OTHERS—The municipality maintains roads in the town, the length of which was 14 km. during 1969-70. It runs a *musafirkhana* and a *piao*. It has also constructed a stadium and a public park. The town has no protected water supply. The record of birth and death is also the responsibility of the municipality. The following table gives the vital statistics maintained by the municipality:

Year	Birth	Death
1965	670	82
1966	334	88
1967	913	105
1968	273	99
1969	154	110

The municipality draws its income mainly from octroi, sale of land, house and land tax, sale of bones, compost and Nazul land etc. The items of expenditure include salary to the staff and other expenses of the office establishment, development work, electric charges etc. The figures of income and expenditure of the last few years are given below:

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Income	Expenditure
1963-64	122	115
1964-65	109	109
1965-66	89	78
1966-67	89	99
1967-68	182	126
1968-69	111	99
1969-70	112	106

MERTA MUNICIPALITY¹—This municipal town has an area of 77.23 sq. km. and a population of 13,083 (1961 Census). As stated earlier, the municipality was set up here in 1946. It is entrusted with the task of maintaining sanitation, making lighting arrangements, keeping vital statistics, construction and looking after the town roads and other such activities which promote the welfare of the townsmen.

The last elections of the municipality were held in October, 1970 before which the work was looked after by an Administrator appointed by the government. The town was divided into 11 wards, one of which returned two members. Thirty-seven candidates contested the elections. The electorate was 6,768 and the total votes polled were 5,819 of which 69 were declared invalid. One of the candidates elected to the seat uncontested. This Board is in the office.

SANITATION—Sanitation work is done by three jamadars and 37 sweepers and is supervised by a sanitary inspector. The garbage is collected through hand carts at main cross roads from where it is plied away in bullock carts or trolley and tractor owned by the municipality, to the outskirts of the town. It has provided 6 urinals and 10 latrines for public use.

LIGHTING—The municipality had its own power house, set up in 1955, which had a capacity of 510 KW with four diesel sets. It was transferred to the Rajasthan State Electricity Board in July 1970. 338 bulbs and 83 tube lights have been provided by the municipality for street lighting (1969-70).

WATER SUPPLY—A water works was set up by the municipality in 1964 to provide water supply to the town but with the establishment of an office of the Water Works Department of the Rajasthan Government, the Water Works was transferred to it in November 1965. The municipality has provided 33 public hydrants at important places in the town.

OTHERS—The municipality maintains tarred road 7 km. in length, a cattle pound, a public park, a bus stand, and waiting room, provides aid to a reading room and a Muslim primary school. Surface pakka drains, about 11 km. in length, are also constructed and maintained by the municipality. The municipality also maintains vital statistics which are tabulated below:

		(No.)
Year	Birth	Death
1965	197	16

1. Source : Office of the Municipality, Merta. Also *Municipal Year Books (Nagarpalika Samank)* for various years.

1	2	3
1966	40	63
1967	209	54
1968	29	40
1969	15	47

The main sources of the income are octroi, license fee, sale of land, house tax, fares recovered from the municipal shops, entertainment tax etc. while expenditure is incurred mostly on the salary of the staff, establishment charges, grants-in-aid, and development work. The income and expenditure of this municipality for the last six years are given below:

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Income	Expenditure
1964-65	309	309
1965-66	296	313
1966-67	346	302
1967-68	393	442
1968-69	420	378
1969-70	347	379

KUCHAMAN MUNICIPALITY¹—Elections to this municipality were held for the first time for electing 13 members, and two members were nominated by the government. The second elections were held in 1959 and then in December 1963. The town was divided into 13 wards two of which were double-seated. This Board continued till the expiry of its term whereafter it was dissolved and an Administrator was appointed by the government. Elections were again held in 1970. The town was divided into 13 wards (two were double-member wards). The total electorate was 10,260. Twenty-eight candidates contested the elections. 7,871 votes were polled of which 165 were declared invalid. The newly constituted Board now continues functioning.

The town has an area of 31 sq. km. and a population of 15,458 persons according to 1961 Census. The municipality looks after sanitation, lighting, water supply, public health, drainage, development work etc. Its office is housed in a rented building. For smooth functioning, its work has been divided into three sections, establishment, octroi collection, and sanitation.

1. Source : Office of the Municipality, Kuchaman. Also *Municipal Year Books (Nagarpalika Samank)* for various years.

LIGHTING—Formerly the electric supply to the town was arranged by a private power house. At present, the Rajasthan State Electricity Board has set up its electric station. The municipality has provided about 350 light points on the streets and at important public places

WATER SUPPLY—The water is being supplied by the municipality from the two wells and a water supply scheme is soon going to take shape.

SANITATION—For sanitation work, the municipality has employed a sanitary inspector, two jamadars and 34 sweepers. It has constructed and maintains four public latrines and seven urinals.

OTHERS—It maintains surface drainage in the town (approx. 2.5 km.), a waiting room, a rest house, a tin shed at the bus stand and grants aid to a local public library. The municipality also records the birth and death statistics. The following table gives the data for the recent years.

Year	Birth	Death
1965	341	6
1966	33	14
1967	324	24
1968	132	15
1969	37	52

The staff of the municipality besides the Executive Officer, consists of sanitary inspector (1), clerks (3), naka-guards (12), jamadars (2), gardeners (2), a wireman, peons (2) and sweepers (34).

The main sources of income of the municipality are octroi, house tax, fees for food licences and vehicle licences and the sale of land while expenditure is incurred by it mostly on the salary of the staff, establishment charges and developmental work. The income and expenditure of Kuchaman municipality for the last six years are given below:

Year	Income	(Rs. in '000)
		Expenditure
1964-65	84	84
1965-66	159	139
1966-67	169	181
1967-68	127	112
1968-69	196	178
1969-70	231	227

PARVATSAR MUNICIPALITY¹—The office of the municipality remained in a rented house till 1966 when it constructed its own building and moved into it. The town is divided into nine wards, one of which returning two members. This has been the position since its inception. Since July, 1966, the municipality had been governed by an Administrator who looked after the work till 1970. In October 1970 elections were held, the number of wards remained unchanged. The total electorate was 3,115 but the number of votes polled was 2,311 of which twenty-five votes were declared invalid. This newly constituted Board is now in the office.

The municipality is entrusted with the work of construction of roads in the town and their maintenance, sanitation and lighting. Since it is the smallest town in the district with a population (1961) of only 5,081 souls and having mostly rural characteristics, there is not much problem connected with sanitation as most of the people go outside the town to the nearby fields before dawn or after sunset to answer the call of nature.

The town has an area of 40.61 sq. km. The municipality maintains light-points in public places and streets. The water supply scheme of the town is under way and the Water Works Department intends to complete it soon.

The municipality also maintains vital statistics. The following table gives the number of birth and death registered by the municipality in recent years.

Year	Birth	Death
1965	65	14
1966	21	3
1967	171	5
1968	10	11
1969	6	28

There are a few gutters and drains in the town maintained by the municipality. It also maintains a park in the town. The staff of the municipality consists of an Executive Officer, two clerks, two nakedars and ten sweepers.

The municipality derives its income from octroi, registration of flour mills and other mills and sale of land. The income and expenditure of the municipality for the recent years are tabulated below:

1. Source : Municipality Office, Parvatsar & *Municipal Year Books*.

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Income	Expenditure
1964-65	35	35
1965-66	35	40
1966-67	33	33
1967-68	20	19
1968-69	30	31
1969-70	54	52

PANCHAYATS

History

Panchayats existed in a rudimentary form in the villages of the Jodhpur State. Erskine, commenting on the state of Administration before the close of the 18th century says "In some cases the people settled their disputes as best as they could, and the principle of might being right usually determined the issue; in others the assistance of the village *panchayats* was called in¹" Other sources² suggest existence of caste or community panchayats for every community in the towns and villages. For example³, the Mahajan Panchayat of Merta was composed of all the adult members of the Maheshwari and Agarwala *Vaishya* community. This panchayat, besides performing other functions, also looked after religious affairs such as recitation of *Katha*, *Varta*, *Garudpurana* etc.⁴ for the benefit of the members of the community. Whenever any dispute arose regarding the right to recitation of *Katha* in Mahajani temple, this panchayat settled the issue. This was in vogue till the reign of Jaswant Singh I of Jodhpur, and also later when Aurangzeb had appointed Muslim officials all over the State. At that time a dispute arose at Merta between the Dahima and Pareek *Katha*-Vyas on the issue of right to recitation. The matter was referred to the Mahajan panchayat which decided the issue. Regarding the procedure followed by the Mahajan Panchayat it is stated that whenever any dispute came up before it both the complainant and the defendant were summoned and the proceedings were conducted in open, generally in a temple. Both the parties were asked to furnish information about their contentions. The panchayat recorded oral and documentary evidences in the case and if it thought it fit to arbitrate in the case, the parties were asked to agree in

1. Erskine, K. D., *A Gazetteer of the Jodhpur State and some Statistical Tables*, Ajmer (1909), p. 132.

2. *Rajasthan History Congress-Proceedings of the Jodhpur Session 1967*, Jaipur (1968), p. 237.

3. *ibid.*, pp. 98-100,

writing to refer the case to arbitration and the decision of the panchayat thereafter was binding on both the parties.

These panchayats existed in the nineteenth century also. Ordinarily, the number of the *panchas* of such panchayats was five but would vary according to the population of the town or the village or the number of members of the community. In higher castes, it was customary to choose one *pancha* from each *gotra*. Among the Mertia Silawats, one *pancha* was chosen to represent five families. Among the *mochies* there were four *panchas* and one *chaudhary* who ranked equal to the *Sarpanch* and was appointed by the State.

The *panchas* were known as *mahatar* in the panchayats of *Khatik*, *Kumhar*, Musalmans, *Chhimpa* and *Lohars*. It is significant that while the caste or community panchayat was composed of the *panchas* of the same community or caste, the village panchayats had *panchas* representing all the castes or communities as also the government representatives.

The decisions in the panchayats were taken either unanimously or by a majority vote but in case they could not reach any decision various ordeals¹ based on common beliefs and superstitions were resorted, to determine the issue.

These panchayats could also promulgate certain rules of behaviour for the members of the community or the caste and all the members were required to follow them under oath. In case of default, they were liable to punishment by the panchayats. It is significant to note that the State exercised full control over these panchayats but seldom interfered in their day-to-day work. The *panchas* also were careful not to deliver a judgement which would go against the statutory rules promulgated by the State. Appeals against the decisions of the panchayats could be made to the judicial courts of the State.

Nevertheless, with the establishment of the various judicial courts in the State in the closing years of the last century, the role of the village and the caste or community panchayats has dwindled in importance. The judicial system was reorganised during the second decade of the present century and consequently the scope of the caste and community panchayats became very limited. In forties, the Jodhpur government set up panchayats in the State with limited judicial and executive powers and controlled by the State officials.

1. *Rajasthan History Congress-Proceedings of the Jodhpur Session 1967*, Jaipur (1968), p. 239.

After Merger

After the formation of Rajasthan, the laws relating to the panchayats prevalent in various States were consolidated. In Nagaur district, there were 129 village panchayats in all the big villages which looked after the sanitation work of those villages¹. They were financed by the *malba* fund and *Kharda* cess recovered by the *patwaris* of those villages. These panchayats decided civil suits upto the valuation of fifty rupees within their jurisdiction. The *Kharda* or *Jhumpa* recovered by the *patwaris* and also one-fourth of the *malba* fund collections of the village were paid to the panchayats for meeting their expenses.

In 1953, the Rajasthan Panchayat Act was promulgated in order to foster and develop local self-government in the rural areas of Rajasthan and to make better provision for village administration and development. According to this Act, a panchayat could be established by the government for a village or a group of villages not included in the limits of a municipality, and each panchayat consisted of *panchas* varying from five to fifteen. The panchayat circles were divided into wards for the election purposes by the Chief Panchayat Officer. The term of a panchayat was for three years. The Act also prescribed the qualification for *panchas*. Every panchayat had a *sarpanch* and a *up-sarpanch*. The duties of the panchayats were categorised as obligatory and discretionary in the matter of developmental work, sanitation and social service. In the sphere of judicial powers, they had concurrent jurisdiction with that of the criminal courts within the Panchayat Circle, to try and take cognizance of any offence, and abetment of or attempt to commit any offence specified in the stipulated schedule with certain restrictions.

They could impose and recover the penalties, inflict a sentence of imprisonment for fault of non-payment of penalties subject to certain conditions. In the civil cases, they could try suits for sums which could be ascertained but not exceeding one hundred rupees.

The panchayats derived income mainly from grants from the State Government, court-fees, sale of court-fee stamps, fine, taxes, tolls and fees etc.

Tahsil panchayats were established under this Act above these village panchayats. Each Tahsil Panchayat consisted of a *sarpanch* and 6 to 8 *panchas* elected in the prescribed manner. They exercised general supervision over the working of all panchayats established within the local

1. Census 1951, Rajasthan & Ajmer, Nagaur District Census Handbook-Part I, Jodhpur (1955) p, (viii).

limits of their jurisdiction and heard appeals against decrees, decisions and orders passed, sentences imposed and other directions issued by the village panchayats.

In pursuance of the rules under this Act, the existing panchayats were reorganised into 230 village panchayats. Eight Tahsil Panchayats were also set up in the district in 1954, which were later abolished.

Democratic Decentralization

The Rajasthan Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act 1959 introduced a three tier system of self-governing bodies in Rajasthan, the Panchayats being at the base, panchayat samiti in the middle and the Zila Parishad at the apex. Nagaur had the honour of being selected as the place where it was inaugurated by the late Jawaharlal Nehru, the Prime Minister of India, on 2nd October 1959. This Act ushered an era of democratic decentralisation of power and responsibilities in the rural areas of the State. Development of initiative in the rural population and the creation of opportunities for the evolution of local leadership so that the responsibilities for planned development of the rural areas may be taken over by the village folk themselves, were the main objectives of this enactment.

At present there are eleven panchayat samitis and a Zila Parishad in the district. There are 361 village panchayats covering 1,246 villages with a population of 664,250.

A village panchayat now covers a population of 1500 to 2000 people and consists of a *sarpanch* and 5 to 20 *panchas*. In addition to these village panchayat has two co-opted women *panchas* and one Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe *pancha*, provided their population exceeds five per cent of the total population. The elections of these panchayats are held triennially on adult suffrage basis by secret ballot, unless withheld by specific orders of the government.

While the earlier panchayats were vested with both the developmental and judicial functions, in the reorganised set up, these functions have been separated and judicial work has been entrusted to the Nyaya Panchayats, while development and planning is entrusted to the village panchayat and the Panchayat Samitis. A Nyaya Panchayat has jurisdiction extending over 5 to 7 panchayats for disposal of petty rural suits. Its members are elected by the constituent panchayats, each electing one Nyaya Pancha. The Chairman of the Nyaya Panchayat is elected by the members from amongst themselves. In the exercise of its criminal jurisdiction, a Nyaya Panchayat can impose a fine not exceeding fifty rupees

while in civil matters it can take cognizance of suits of the value not exceeding Rs. 500/-. There is no provision for appeals against the orders of a Nyaya Panchayat, but the revision lies with the Munsif in civil suits and Magistrate of the First Class in criminal cases. There are 69 Nyaya Panchayats in the district. The Nyaya Panchayat functions through a bench consisting of three members and are constituted by its Chairman who can also fix the jurisdiction of the benches and their membership.

Each panchayat has a Chairman called the *Sarpanch* who is elected by the entire electorate of the panchayat and functions as its Chief Executive authority. He is assisted by a Secretary who is appointed by the panchayat and who attends to the ministerial work and performs such duties as are assigned to him by the panchayat and the *Sarpanch*.

The major functions of all the panchayats are divided into municipal, administrative and developmental. It plans for the increased production by individual families and organises the community for promotion of its health, safety, education and comfort, and caters to the social, economic and cultural well-being of the inhabitants, within its jurisdiction. It can raise its funds through vehicle tax, pilgrim tax, tax on buildings, tax on commercial crops, octroi, fees and fines imposed on the owners of the impounded cattle, grazing charges, irrigation fees for water given for irrigation from panchayat tanks, proceeds from the sale of *abadi* lands etc.

Panchayat Samitis were established to look after the administration of every block which was created under the Community Development Programme and they also co-ordinate the activities of the panchayats under them. Blocks are the lowest viable units of the Governmental administration in the sphere of planning and development. The district has eleven blocks created since 1953-54. These are: Didwana (1953-54), Ladnun (1956-57), Kuchaman (1957-58), Makrana (1957-58), Degana (1958-59), Jayal (1959-60), Riyan (1960-61), Merta (1961-62), Nagaur (1961-62), Parvatsar (1962-63) and Mundwa (1962-63).

The Rajasthan Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads Act (1959), devolves on the Panchayat Samitis the entire charge of all developmental works within their jurisdiction and makes them responsible for the promotion of agriculture, animal husbandry, co-operation, minor irrigation works, village industries, primary education, local communication, sanitation, health and medical relief and local amenities. It is also envisaged that the Panchayat Samiti should not work through individuals but collectively and with this end in view, constitution of at least three Standing

Committees has been made obligatory in the statute. It is through these committees that all the day-to-day business of the Samiti is transacted.

The Panchayat Samiti derives its income from the various taxes authorised under the Act, grants for liabilities transferred by the various departments, annual ad hoc grants, matching grants for schemes transferred, loans advanced by the State Government and lastly, a fixed sum from each head of population of the Samiti, in lieu of share of land revenue.

The Panchayat Samitis have ex-officio and co-opted members. All the *Sarpanchas* of the panchayats in the Block are its ex-officio members. Co-option can be made from seven categories of persons prescribed under the Act¹ through secret ballot by the ex-officio members. The term of office of the Panchayat Samiti is five years, originally.

The members elect from amongst themselves, a *Pradhan* who acts as Chairman of the Samiti. This election is also held by secret ballot.

The Zila Parishad supervises and co-ordinates the work of the various Panchayat Samitis in the district, maintains liaison between the State Government and the Panchayat and Panchayat Samitis, and prepares district plans on the basis of the plans prepared by the Panchayat Samitis. It consists of the ex-officio and co-opted members. All the *Pradhans* of the Panchayat Samitis in the district, Members of Parliament, Members

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1. *The Rajasthan Panchayat Samitis & Zila Parishads Act 1959*, pp. 14-15. These categories are: (i) one Krishi Nipun, (ii) two women, if no woman is the member of the Panchayat Samiti by virtue of sub-section (1), (iii) one woman, if only one woman is such member, (iv) one person belonging to the Scheduled Castes if no such person is a member of the Panchayat Samiti by virtue of sub-section (1), (v) one person belonging to the Scheduled Tribes, if no such person is a member of the Panchayat Samiti by virtue of sub-section (1) and the population of such tribes in the block exceeds five per cent of the total population of that block, (vi) one person from amongst the members of the managing committee of co-operatives in the block, and (vii) two persons whose experience in administration, public life or rural development would be of benefit to the Panchayat Samiti: Provided that it shall not be necessary that the persons mentioned in clause (vii) reside in the block, but they must be residing in the district in which the block is situated.

Provided further that, in case of a dispute whether any person has experience in administration, public life or rural development beneficial to the panchayat samiti or not, the decision of the State Government thereon shall be final.

Provided also that if any person is co-opted under this sub-section for more than one block, he shall not hold office as Pradhan or Up-Pradhan in more than one block.

of the State Legislative Assembly, President of the Central Co-operative Bank in the district and the Collector of the district (who has no voting right), are its ex-officio members. Five categories of persons specified in the Act, are co-opted¹ by the ex-officio members by secret ballot.

The members of the Zila Parishad elect, from amongst themselves, the *Pramukh* who acts as Chairman. The Zila Parishad has a secretary who is an officer belonging to the State Service. He issues notices for the meeting of the Zila Parishad and sub-committees, remains present at such meetings and keeps the minutes, carries out the decisions and resolutions of the Zila Parishad and its sub-committees and works as drawing and disbursing officer of the Zila Parishad.

The Zila Parishad has its own financial resources which consist of grant-in-aid received from the State expenses relating to establishment, and allowances to its members, and donations or contributions received from the Panchayat Samitis or from the public.

The *Pramukh* is the elected head of Zila Parishad and functions as the head of the team of non-officials working in the Panchayat Raj institutions in the district.

At present, the members of the Zila Parishad in Nagaur district consist of eleven *Pradhans*, nine Members of the Legislative Assembly, three Members of Parliament, the Chairman of the Co-operative Bank, the President of the District Co-operative Union, one woman (co-opted) and the District Collector, besides the *Pramukh*.

The working of the Panchayat Samitis since their creation in 1959-60 is briefly described below:

Panchayat Samiti, Degana²

Situated in the central part of the district it comprises 138 villages with an area of 1463.22 sq. km. and a population of 79,470 persons and

1. (a) two women, if no woman is the member of the Zila Parishad by virtue of sub-section (3), (b) one woman, if only one woman is such member, (c) one person belonging to the Scheduled Castes if no such person is the member of the Zila Parishad by virtue of sub-section (3), (d) one person belonging to the Scheduled Tribes, if no such person is the member of the Zila Parishad by virtue of sub-section (3) and the population of such tribes in the district exceeds five per cent of the total population of the district, and (e) two persons whose experience in administration, public life or rural development would of benefit to the Zila Parishad. *Provided that*, in case of a dispute whether any person co-opted under this clause has experience in administration, public life or rural development beneficial to the Zila Parishad or not, the decision of the State Government thereon shall be final.
2. Source: Office of the Panchayat Samiti, Degana.

covers 37 village panchayats having 415 elected *panchas* and seven *nyaya* panchayats with 40 *panchas*. At present the Samiti has 45 members of whom 37 are elected *sarpanchas*, 6 co-opted, one Member of Rajasthan Legislative Assembly and one Government official in the person of the Sub-Divisional Officer, Merta. It has five standing committees, one each for financial administration, agricultural production, education, social service and industries, co-operation and animal husbandry.

In 1969, it had under its control 63 primary and five junior basic schools and maintained two libraries and two reading rooms. Six middle, one secondary and one higher secondary schools in the Panchayat Samiti were controlled by the Education Department of the State Government.

The chief *kharif* produce of the Samiti includes *Bajra*, *jowar*, *makka*, *gwar* and *til* while the *rabi* brings forth barley, wheat and gram. Since the creation of the Samiti in 1959, it has brought 104,190 hectares of land under cultivation, 503 wells and 29 ponds have been dug and repaired, improved seeds of the tune of 5.40 qntl. of wheat, 2.25 qntls. of barley, 3.56 qntl. of gram, 2.40 qntl. of *Bajra*, 2.62 qntl. of *jowar*, 0.04 qntl. of *gwar*, 0.06 qntl. of *moong*, 0.13 qntl. of *til*, 0.15 qntl. of ground nut and 0.12 qntl. of cotton have been distributed.

The Samiti has one rural dispensary, four *ayurvedic aushadhalayas* and one primary health centre and two registered *ayurvedic* medical practitioners. A total of 16,448 vaccinations has been performed so far (1969-70) of which 6,279 were primary; 32 drinking water wells have been constructed while 112 have been repaired.

In the field of animal husbandry, 11,679 castrations were performed in 1968-69, while the number of inoculations and vaccinations was 86,338. A total of 43,776 animals were treated, 70 bulls, 92 rams and 615 poultry were supplied, 62 cattle breeding, 38 sheep breeding and one poultry breeding farms were opened, 6,889 sheep were vaccinated and 61 cattle sheds and 46 bull sheds were constructed. A cattle fair is being held every year by the Panchayat Samiti since 1963-64.

There were 47 co-operative societies in the Samiti (1969-70) having a membership of 4,274 with a share capital of Rs.149,315. Members were provided with a loan of Rs. 1,63,090 of which Rs. 93,365 have been recovered.

2,254 metres of roads, 47 school buildings and five panchayat *ghars* were constructed in the panchayat samiti upto 1969-70. The income and expenditure of the Panchayat Samiti from the year of its creation are given below:

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Income			Total	Expenditure			Total
	From own resources	Govt. aid	Loan		From own income	From Govt. aid	From loans	
1959-60	9	173	60	242	7	131	33	171
1960-61	168	374	99	641	146	345	7	568
1961-62	189	280	129	598	150	278	57	485
1962-63	87	283	120	490	102	306	20	428
1963-64	76	225	130	431	101	317	96	514
1964-65	98	290	135	523	100	267	156	523
1965-66	128	412	88	628	164	421	139	724
1966-67	42	303	123	468	71	380	46	497
1967-68	183	459	29	671	117	444	66	627
1968-69	166	488	17	671	118	442	22	582
1969-70	36	541	13	590	163	589	104	856

The staff of the Panchayat Samiti consists of Vikas Adhikari (1), Extension Officers (4), overseer (1), farm manager (1), village level workers (10), teachers (125), office clerks (10), vaccinator (1), drivers (2), stockmen (3), veterinary compounder (1), farm hallis (5) and class IV employees (8).

Panchayat Samiti, Didwana¹

Situated in the north-eastern part of the district, the Panchayat Samiti Didwana, has an area of 1,684.84 sq. km. and a population of 1,03,098, distributed into 155 villages. There are 40 village panchayats and 350 *panchas*. The number of *nyaya* Panchayats is eight having 56 *panchas*. The elected members of the Panchayat Samiti number 40, in addition to the 7 co-opted and two members of the Rajasthan *Vidhan Sabha*. The Samiti has four standing committees for finance and administration, education, social service and production.

Bajra, *moth*, *moong*, *gwar*, wheat and barley are the chief agricultural produce in the samiti area. It has distributed 4,500 kg. of improved seeds, 51 improved agricultural implements, 320 tonnes of chemical fertilisers, 2,500 fruit plants, 153 kg seeds of vegetables and 250 pumping sets between 1959-60 and 1969-70. During the same period it has sunk 1,250 wells and repaired 210. 1,500 compost pits were dug. *med bundi* was done in 3490 acres, 119,000 animals were inoculated, 65,000 were treated and 66 animals of improved breeds were distributed.

At present the Samiti has 110 primary schools with 161 teachers

1. Source : Office of the Panchayat Samiti, Didwana.

and 5,130 students and it maintains seven reading rooms and four libraries. It realised a sum of Rs. 3,13,650 as public contribution till 1969-70 for developmental work within its jurisdiction.

The staff of the Samiti consists of Vikas Adhikari (1), Extension Officers for education, agriculture, co-operative societies and animal husbandry (4), village level workers (10), teachers (161), clerks (8), women social workers (4), vaccinator (1), driver (1) and class IV employees (9).

The income and expenditure of the Samiti since its inception are tabulated below :

(Rounded off Rs. in '000)

Year	Expenditure				Income			
	Own	Govt. aid	Loan	Total	From own income	From Govt. aid	From loan	Total
1959-60	1	319	88	408	1	143	84	228
1960-61	31	630	125	786	14	490	91	595
1961-62	56	434	42	532	51	198	42	291
1962-63	65	424	650	1,139	54	175	33	262
1963-64	73	415	62	550	73	370	57	500
1964-65	75	404	74	553	45	46	71	162
1965-66	417	461	185	1,063	386	155	142	683
1966-67	325	265	215	805	319	231	136	686
1967-68	488	860	78	1,426	365	622	42	1,029
1968-69	393	121	22	536	271	64	27	362
1969-70	306	367	130	803	234	321	130	685

Panchayat Samiti, Kuchaman¹

This Panchayat Samiti is situated in the eastern-most part of the district and has 42 village panchayats and eight *nyaya* panchayats. Its population, according to 1961 Census, was 97,162, distributed in 117 villages. It is composed of 43 ex-officio members including Pradhan, four co-opted members and two members of the State Legislative Assembly.

Between 1959-60 and 1969-70, the Samiti distributed about 61 tonnes of chemical fertilisers, 1,107 tonnes of improved seeds, 224 improved agricultural implements, 13,333 fruit trees ; held 389 agricultural demonstrations, *Med bandi* was done on 574 hectares of land, it distributed 52 animals of improved breeds and 505 poultry, constructed 365 wells for irrigation and brought under cultivation 1,386 hectares of land. Besides, 105 co-operative societies were set up with a membership of 4,538 and

1. Source : Office of the Panchayat Samiti, Kuchaman.

109 drinking water wells were sunk. During the same period 12 reading rooms, 43 *Mahila Samitis*, 85 youth clubs and 59 adult literacy centres were established and 414 adults were taught how to read and write. There are 77 primary schools having 152 teachers and one lady peon and 4,762 students (1969-70). The public participation in the development programme of the Samiti during this period was of the order of Rs. 1,36,700.

The staff of the Samiti consists of Vikas Adhikari (1), Extension officers for education and agriculture (3), village level workers (10), a vaccinator, teachers (152), office clerks (9), a driver and five class IV employees.

The income and expenditure of the Panchayat Samiti since 1959-60 have been as under :

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Income				Expenditure			
	Own	Govt. aid	Loan	Total	From own income	From Govt. aid	From loan	Total
1959-60	2	195	55	252	—	116	20	138
1960-61	20	393	75	488	8	335	67	410
1961-62	40	385	109	534	4	372	91	467
1962-63	69	307	24	400	27	436	78	541
1963-64	107	349	56	512	112	316	30	458
1964-65	45	360	147	552	122	332	142	596
1965-66	161	459	174	794	97	352	125	574
1966-67	292	345	206	843	64	485	75	624
1967-68	226	466	117	809	299	444	175	918
1968-69	213	540	6	759	221	478	23	722
1969-70	338	432	70	840	16	594	64	674

Panchayat Samiti, Ladhun¹

Situated in the north-eastern part of the district, the Samiti has an area of 502.93 sq. km. and a population of 56,499 (1961 Census) distributed in 96 villages. It is composed of 33 members of whom twenty-five are ex-officio, three co-opted, one Member of Parliament, one Member of *Vidhan Sabha* and three others. The Samiti has 25 village panchayats and 259 *panchas*. The number of *nyaya* panchayats is five and they have 25 *panchas*.

The principal crops in this area are *bajra*, *moong*, *moth*, *gwar*, *til*, wheat and barley. Since its formation, the Samiti has distributed 20.5 tonnes of nitrogenous and 12.45 tonnes of phosphatic fertilisers, *med bandi* has been done on 742 hectares of land, a total of 16 new irrigation wells

1. Source : Office of the Panchayat Samiti, Ladhun.

have been sunk, and seven have been repaired, 15 pumping sets and two tube wells have been installed and boring has been done in three wells. In the field of animal husbandry, 18,348 animals were castrated, 62,430 treated and 1,03,140 inoculated. Six bull sheds, nine sheep breeding centres, one poultry farm and 43 cattle breeding centres were established.

There are three rural dispensaries, six *aushadhalayas*,¹ one primary health centre and four maternity and child welfare centres. The Samiti has 72 primary schools, six middle schools, three high and higher secondary schools in the area within its jurisdiction but it exercises control on primary schools only. It maintains six reading rooms and two libraries.

Panchayat Samiti, Makrana¹

The Panchayat Samiti has an area of 1,115 sq.km. and a population of 72,122 (1961 Census), which is distributed in 101 villages. It has 31 village panchayats having 363 *panchas* and six *nyaya* panchayats having 31 *panchas*. The total members of the Samiti numbered 37.

Bajra, barley and wheat are the principal crops of the area. It has a cultivable area of 71,966 hectares. Since its formation, the Samiti sunk six wells for irrigation. During the same period, 8 cattle farms and 19 sheep farms were set up and 1,284 animals were castrated.

The Samiti has a rural dispensary, five *ayurvedic aushadhalayas*, one primary health centre, with three sub-centres and one child and maternity welfare centre. There are 72 primary schools, two junior basic schools, nine middle schools and one higher secondary school but only the primary schools are under its control. It maintains a library, a reading room and ten adult literacy centres where 320 adults have been taught reading and writing.

There are 42 co-operative societies in the Samiti with 3,114 members.

A total of 124 wells for drinking water were sunk and 46 repaired.

The staff of the Panchayat Samiti consists of a *Vikas Adhikari*, four Extension Officers (education, agriculture and co-operative societies), ten village level workers, 121 teachers, eight clerks, one vaccinator, two *skandhpal* and five class IV employees.

The income and expenditure of the Panchayat Samiti since its inception have been as under :

1. Source : Office of the Panchayat Samiti, Makrana.

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Income	Expenditure
1959-60	209	155
1960-61	421	384
1961-62	425	307
1962-63	401	350
1963-64	328	326
1964-65	364	350
1965-66	407	245
1966-67	492	581
1967-68	443	465
1968-69	501	440
1969-70	582	915

Panchayat Samiti, Mundwa¹

Situated in the western part of the district, the Panchayat Samiti has an area of 2,255 sq. km. It has 31 village panchayats and six *nyaya* panchayats.

There are 41 members of the Panchayat Samiti of whom 31 are ex-officio, one associated official, six co-opted, two Members of *Vidhan Sabha* and one in special category. It has four standing committees, for administration and finance, agricultural production, education and for social services.

Jowar, *bajra*, *moth* and *til* are the principal crops grown in the area. The Panchayat Samiti, during the last nine years (1961-62 to 1969-70) has distributed 300 qntl. of improved food-grain seeds and 18 kg. of vegetable seeds. *Med bundi* was done on 35,367 hectares of land, 31 tonnes of ammonium sulphate and 24 tonnes of super phosphate fertilisers were distributed. A total of 1,162 improved agricultural implements were distributed, 1,104 compost pits were dug and 3,050 fruit trees were distributed for plantation. For irrigation purposes 95 wells were sunk, 32 renovated and 12 pumping sets were installed. During the year 1969-70 agricultural camps were held at the Panchayat Samiti level and *gram sevak* level in which 218 farmers participated. In these camps improved agricultural practices were demonstrated and their use recommended. In the field of animal husbandry 181 sheep and rams, 65 bulls and 142 poultry were distributed and 21 cattle breeding farms were established.

During the year 1969-70, there were 70 primary schools having 126 teachers and 3,924 students. There are eight adult education centres, a reading room and a library in the Samiti.

1. Source : Office of the Panchayat Samiti, Mundwa.

The staff of the Samiti consists of a Vikas Adhikari, three Extension Officers for agriculture and education, 10 *gram sevaks*, 126 teachers, a vaccinator, eight clerks, a driver, a *skandhpal* and five peons.

The income and expenditure of the Samiti for the last eleven years ending with 1969-70 are given below :

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Income			Expenditure		
	Own	Govt. aid	Loan	From own income	From Govt. aid	From loan
1959-60	—	121	0.4	—	148	14
1960-61	—	235	55	—	228	—
1961-62	6	335	71	—	330	67
1962-63	4	241	56	—	218	64
1963-64	1	235	46	—	235	—
1964-65	4	290	28	3	326	122
1965-66	11	354	67	9	374	114
1966-67	6	467	109	12	432	118
1967-68	29	334	62	47	40	55
1968-69	90	433	4	68	426	17
1969-70	66	330	70	59	433	67

Panchayat Samiti, Nagaur¹

Situated in the western-most corner of the district, the Panchayat Samiti has an area of 1,162 sq. km. and its population was distributed in 117 villages. It has 30 village panchayats and six *nyaya* panchayats, having 372 and 30 *panchas* and *sarpanchas* respectively. The total number of members of the Samiti is 40 of whom 30 are appointed ex-officio, 2 are M.L.As, one is an official member, 3 are associated and 4 co-opted members. The Samiti has four standing committees for administration and finance, development work, education and social services.

The Samiti, since its formation upto date, has distributed 177.19 qntls. of improved seeds of various varieties of wheat, *bajra*, *jowar*, *makki*, gram and barley. During the same period 371.11 qntls. of chemical fertilisers and 1,37,020 tonnes of compost were made available to the public. Fruit trees numbering 2,376 and other shady plantations numbering 7,954 were distributed. Soil conservation (*med bandi*, terracing and *kana bandi*) was done in 14,905 hectares of area, improved agricultural implements consisting of iron ploughs, seed drillers, dust sprayers and chaffcutting machines numbering 190 were made available and 51 agri-

1. Source : Office of the Panchayat Samiti, Nagaur.

cultural demonstration camps were held. In the field of minor irrigation, 81 wells were sunk, 25 repaired, irrigation channels 8,158 metres long were dug and 30 pumping sets were installed.

During this period 468 cattle breeding centres were also opened, 11,392 animals were castrated, 1,07,527 treated and 23,828 were inoculated and 65 bulls, 5 buffaloes and 65 rams of improved breeds were distributed. The number of the exhibitions of calves and sheep arranged were respectively 25 and 18. A poultry centre was opened at the Block level.

The Samiti has built 79 pakka houses for the schools and 17 residential quarters for the teachers. It organised ten youth clubs with a membership of 210 and five *mahila mandals* having a membership of 117. In 1969-70, there were 91 primary schools in the Samiti, having 137 teachers and 4,253 students on its roll.

The Samiti also constructed 33 houses, two wells and 17 ponds for the members of the Scheduled Castes during the same period. It also constructed ten panchayat buildings, two *aushadhalaya* buildings, one building for primary health centre, 28 wells for drinking water and repaired 49 wells.

The staff of the Panchayat Samiti consists of a Vikas Adhikari, six Extension Officers, 10 *gramsevak*s, 137 teachers, eight clerks, a vaccinator, seven peons and a driver.

The figures of income and expenditure of the Panchayat Samiti since its formation are given below :

Year	(Rs. in '000)	
	Income	Expenditure
1959-60	279	188
1960-61	452	430
1961-62	505	450
1962-63	394	378
1963-64	734	486
1964-65	777	610
1965-66	780	686
1966-67	696	680
1967-68	567	627
1968-69	771	759
1969-70	747	875

Panchayat Samiti, Parvatsar¹

The Panchayat Samiti, Parvatsar, has an area of 680 sq. km. and its population was distributed in 101 villages. There are 31 village panchayats and six *nyaya* panchayats having 372 and 31 *panchas* respectively. The number of members of the Samiti is 40 of whom 31 are ex-officio, six co-opted, one official, one M.P. and one M.L.A. There are five standing committees, namely, for animal husbandry and agriculture production, social welfare, finance and administration, education and general standing committee. The principle crops of the area are *bajra*, *moong*, *moth*, wheat and barley.

During 1969-70, the Samiti distributed 120.63 qntls. of fertilisers, 313 51 qntls. of seed and supplied 25 agricultural implements. In the field of irrigation, it constructed 36 new wells and renovated 71 old wells. An area of twenty hectares was reclaimed for soil conservation and *med bandi* was done in 165 hectares. There were 40 co-operative societies in the Samiti with 2,995 members. The Samiti had 59 primary schools, 20 adult education centres which made 335 adults literate.

The sanctioned strength of the staff of the Samiti consists of a Vikas Adhikari, two Sub-Deputy Inspectors cum Education Extension Officers, nine clerks, two stockmen, a driver, ten village level workers, 117 teachers and five class IV employees.

The income and expenditure of the Panchayat Samiti since its creation are tabulated below :

Year	(Rs. in '000)	
	Income	Expenditure
1959-60	165	54
1960-61	387	411
1961-62	287	295
1962-63	342	258
1963-64	347	389
1964-65	421	423
1965-66	584	403
1966-67	1,144	1,060
1967-68	1,095	1,125
1968-69	804	568
1969-70	781	924

1. Source : Office of the Panchayat Samiti, Parvatsar.

Panchayat Samiti, Riyan¹

Located in the southern part of the district, the Samiti has an area of 387.5 sq. km. and a population of 74,904 (1961 Census) distributed among 117 villages. It has 33 village panchayats and six *nyaya* panchayats. It has 42 members of whom 33 are ex-officio, one associated non-official, six co-opted and two M.L.As. There are five standing committees of the Samiti to transact its business. These are for general administration and finance; animal husbandry, agriculture and co-operation; social and general education; public health and water supply and lastly for general administration.

Bajra, *jowar*, wheat, *til*, ground nut, *moth*, cotton etc. are the important crops of the samiti.

The samiti constructed 140 new wells and repaired 150; it installed 17 Persian wheels and 81 pumping sets during 1969-70. At the same time, 116 tonnes of nitrogenous, five tonnes of potash and 18 tonnes of super phosphate fertilisers were distributed. Green manuring was done in 80 acres and 248 compost pits were dug. *Med bunding* was done in 3,638 acres. Under the fruit development scheme, 890 plants were distributed to be planted. Twenty four lavatories were also constructed.

The staff of the Panchayat Samiti consists of a Vikas Adhikari, two Extension Officers, ten *gram sevaks*, one vaccinator, 121 teachers, ten clerks, a farm manager, two ploughmen, two drivers and five peons.

The income and expenditure of the Panchayat Samiti since its formation are given below :

Year	(Rs. in '000)	
	Income	Expenditure
1959-60	8	6
1960-61	33	9
1961-62	118	N.A.
1962-63	90	65
1963-64	51	155
1964-65	165	168
1965-66	55	151
1966-67	264	290
1967-68	334	259
1968-69	511	466
1969-70	444	615

1. Source : Office of the Panchayat Samiti, Riyan.

Panchayat Samiti, Merta¹

Situated in the south-western part of the district, the Samiti has a population of 59,859 (1961 Census). Its principal crops are *bajra*, *jowar*, *til*, ground nut, wheat and chillies. There are five standing committees in the Samiti for, (a) finance and administration, (b) social service, (c) education and social education, (d) animal husbandry and lastly (e) agriculture.

In the field of agriculture, the Samiti distributed 73.50 tons of fertilisers, 122.25 qntl. of seeds, 113 agricultural implements and 33 demonstrations were held during 1970-71. In the same year, *Med bunding* was done on 5,548 acres and 500 acres of land was reclaimed. In the sphere of animal husbandry, three pedigree animals were supplied. 62 new wells were dug for irrigation and two for drinking water. Likewise 43 old wells for irrigation purposes and 15 for drinking water were repaired. In the sphere of co-operation, there were 59 co-operative societies in 1970-71, claiming a membership of 6107. The samiti had 56 primary schools and 50 adult education centres and 500 adults were made literate. There were eight medical institutions, both allopathic and ayurvedic. It maintained six reading rooms and five libraries.

The staff of the samiti consisted of a Vikas Adhikari, three Extension Officers, one Veterinary Assistant Surgeon, ten village level workers, three stockmen, a vaccinator, seven clerks, 109 teachers, two drivers and seven class IV employees.

The income and expenditure of the Samiti since its inception has been as under:

(Rs. in '000)

Year	Income	Expenditure
1959-60	184	60
1960-61	371	315
1961-62	374	386
1962-63	363	222
1963-64	598	473
1964-65	557	563
1965-66	861	874
1966-67	800	889
1967-68	974	912
1968-69	973	1,030
1969-70	1,100	1,448

1. Source : Office of the Panchayat Samiti, Merta.

N.A.=Not available.

Panchayat Samiti, Jayal¹

Situated in the central part of the district, east of Nagaur, the Samiti had a population of 68,179 (1961 Census) and covered 34 village panchayats. The principal crops of the area are *bajra*, *gowar*, *moong*, *moth*, barley, gram and groundnut.

The Samiti distributed 12.34 qncls. of fertilisers, 807 qncls. of seeds and 206 agricultural implements and held 18 demonstrations during 1969-70. *Med bunding* was done on 601 hectares of land. In the sphere of irrigation, 33 new wells were constructed while repairs were done to 10. In that year, there were 51 co-operative societies and 86 primary schools. 54 adult education centres were in existence which made 640 adults literate. For drinking water, wells and one pond were constructed in that year.

The staff of the Samiti consisted of a Vikas Adhikari, two Extension Officers, nine clerks, four stockmen, 153 teachers, ten village level workers, eight class IV employees and a driver.

The figures of income and expenditure of the Samiti since its inception are given below:

Year	Income	(Rs. in '000)
		Expenditure
1959-60	190	102
1960-61	438	369
1961-62	590	455
1962-63	436	418
1963-64	651	561
1964-65	797	695
1965-66	901	997
1966-67	796	755
1967-68	676	672
1968-69	839	796
1969-70	780	1,076

1. Source : Office of the Panchayat Samiti, Jayal.

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Early History

There is no written account relating to centres of learning in the area in olden times. Traditions however abound centering round the existence of ancient seats of culture and scholarship in this district. Poet Brinda and Mirabai, a celebrated poetess, flourished in this area. The songs and *bhajans* of Mirabai still inspire the people throughout the country. Recent historical records leave little doubt about the existence of a tradition of education and culture in Nagaur district area in the ancient and medieval times.

As elsewhere in the country, imparting education in this area was the sole preserve of priests, *Mullahs* and religious institutions. The teaching was mostly oral, and the students had to commit to memory what was taught to them by the teacher. The curriculum was comprehensive, including not only the religious books but also grammar, philosophy, literature, mathematics, logic, astronomy etc. The arts of dancing, singing and other fine arts also formed a part of it. As a rule, the student lived in the house of the teacher which was mostly situated in the jungle, far away from human habitation and was popularly known as *ashram*. He rendered personal service to his preceptor in return till he completed his studies. The teacher in those days was accorded the highest respect in society. To sit on his *vetrasana* was a sin so atrocious that it was believed to reduce the transgressor's span of life and bring him obloquy everywhere¹. The education was only imparted to high caste Hindus such as Brahmins, Kshatriyas, and Vaishyas. Lower caste people known as *Shudras* were not allowed to have education. The education imparted to *Vaishyas* consisted largely of professional training such as maintenance of accounts etc. The education for Kshatriyas was more vocal than academic and included military training and the use of arms. The training in crafts etc. was traditional in nature, carried from father to son. The students were paid individual attention and relations between the teacher and the taught were very cordial, almost paternal.

The spread of education was, however, not very marked from the 17th to 19th centuries. The rulers remained busy in wars and skirmishes

1. Sharma, Dr. Dasharatha, *Early Chauhan Dynasties*, p. 291.

while the other chiefs and nobles as a rule regarded reading and writing below their dignity, and fine arts was prerogative of their paid servants who practised them only to entertain their masters. Schools were, of course, in existence but only in the form of private institutions of the indigenous type such as Hindu *posals* or *pathashalas* and Muhammadan *maktabs*, in which reading, writing and a little simple arithmetic were only taught¹. The teachers were not paid regular salaries but were given financial aid in cash or in kind by the guardians and parents of the students. A *maktab* was a primary school attached to a mosque where instruction was imparted to boys in some parts of the *Koran*. Female education was neglected as there were no separate or co-educational schools for girls. Most of them, therefore, remained illiterate. *Purdah* was a great retarding factor in female education. Only in very exceptional cases, they were taught reading and writing and that too at home.

By the close of the nineteenth century, in the former Jodhpur State, the rulers had started adopting a positive policy of opening Government schools in *Khalsa* villages but regarded it as the responsibility of jagirdars to educate people at their own expenses in villages under their jurisdiction. In Marwar, as in other native states of Rajputana, the number of educated people was very small.

Beginning of Western Education

K.D. Erskine observed regarding education in Marwar thus: "The earliest public institutions were apparently a couple of vernacular schools (at Jasol and Barmer) in the Mallani district; it is not known when they were first opened, but they were attended by about one hundred boys in 1868 and were maintained from a special fund under the control of the Political Agent. In the following year, the *Darbar* established an anglo-vernacular school (which soon developed into a high school) and a Hindi *pathshala*—both at the capital—while in 1870 vernacular schools were opened at the headquarters of nine districts."²

In the year 1886-87, anglo-vernacular schools were established at Merta and Nagaur. In the year 1897, teaching of English was started at the Nawa School. An anglo-vernacular school was opened at Didwana in 1899. The policy of giving grants-in-aid to the institutions maintained by private persons was initiated in the year 1902. An anglo-vernacular school was established at Merta Road in 1903 for the benefit of the children of railway employees. About Rs. 4,000 were spent on grants-in-aid

1. Erskine, K.D., *Rajputana Gazetteers*, Vol. III-A, 1909, p. 166.

2. *ibid.*

during the year 1906. Education was free in all the State and private institutions except at Merta school where a fee of two annas (12 paise) a month was charged if the income of a boy's parent was between Rs. 5 and Rs. 10 p.m. and of four annas (25 paise) if it exceeded Rs. 10 p.m.¹ The students absenting themselves for more than a month without sufficient cause had to pay a fine of one rupee each for re-admission. In the year 1923-24 the scheme for the expansion of primary education was approved. It envisaged opening of a primary school in each village having a population of two thousand persons².

During the year 1931-32, in the area now forming Nagaur district, there were 6 middle schools for boys, one each at Nagaur, Didwana, Merta City, Nawa, Ladnun and Makrana. During the year 1935-36, co-education was introduced in higher classes as separate institutions for higher education of girls were not existent. The anglo-vernacular schools were of two types viz, high schools and middle schools, and in these schools English was taught in addition to other subjects covered in vernacular schools. Vernacular institutions comprised middle, primary and lower primary schools.³

A village tournament for boys of the primary classes of the district schools was arranged at Merta City in 1935. Red Cross work was carried on regularly in all the institutions with encouraging results and improved cleanliness and healthier habits were in evidence.⁴

During the year 1940-41, the State Education Department comprised three main branches viz., the College, the Anglo-vernacular and Vernacular. Anglo-vernacular schools were of two types viz., secondary and middle schools, both for boys and girls. Secondary schools were affiliated to the Central India and Rajputana Board of Education, Ajmer. Co-education was allowed in boys' schools. Marwar English Middle and Marwar Vernacular Final examinations were held at the end of the class VII. Those who qualified in the Marwar English Middle School Examination were entitled for higher studies in secondary classes.⁵

In Nagaur district area, in 1940-41 there were State vernacular middle schools at Nagaur, Merta City, Didwana, Nawa and Makrana. Two aided vernacular middle schools were located at Ladnun and another

1. Erskine, K.D., *Rajputana Gazetteers*, Vol. III-A, 1909, p. 171.

2. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, 1923-24, p. 29.

3. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State* volumes for concerning years.

4. *Report on the Administration of Jodhpur State*, 1935-36, pp. 38, 39.

5. *ibid.*, 1940-41, p. 41.

recognised middle school at Kuchaman City. State-run primary schools for boys in the area were running at Jaswantgarh, Kuchera, Parvatsar, Maroth, Degana, Merta Road, Mundwa and Basni¹. For girls there was a state primary school at Didwana and a lower primary school each at Kuchera, Makrana, Maroth, Merta City, Mundwa, Nagaur, Nawa and Parvatsar.² A vernacular middle school for boys and a primary school for girls were opened at Ladnun during 1941-42³.

During the year 1945-46, in Jodhpur State, there was one college, twelve high and three upper middle schools⁴. In Nagaur district area, there were two state upper middle schools at Kuchaman City and Ladnun and one recognised High School at Didwana, which sent its first batch for high school examination in 1947. Besides, there were eleven state middle schools located at Didwana, Jaswantgarh, Kuchera, Makrana, Maroth, Merta City, Molasar, Nawa, Nagaur, Parvatsar and Thanwala. Out of five aided middle schools in Jodhpur State two were located at Ladnun. Besides the area had six primary schools at Basni, Chhoti Khatu, Degana, Merta Road, Mundwa and Makrana⁵.

A Committee had been appointed by the State Government in 1944-45 to chalk out post-war reconstruction education plan and suggest reforms, if any, in the then existing method of education. The educational system was reorganised in 1945-46.

After Independence the educational facilities have been increasing fast due to the interest taken by the Government. Details of educational institutions existing in Nagaur district during the years 1950 to 1954 were as follows⁶:

Tahsil	Primary Schools					High and Middle Schools				
	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954	1950	1951	1952	1953	1954
Nagaur	14	17	20	30	55	1	1	1	1	2
Didwana	11	15	24	33	49	1	1	1	1	1
Merta	28	30	34	37	58	1	1	1	1	1
Parvatsar	14	14	17	20	39	—	—	—	—	—
Nawa	17	17	17	17	29	—	—	—	—	—
Total	84	93	112	137	230	3	3	3	3	4

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1940-41*, p. 47.

2. *ibid.*, 1941-42, p. 48.

3. *ibid.*, p. 50.

4. *ibid.*, 1945-46, pp. 97-98.

5. *ibid.*, p. 101.

6. Source: Office of the Inspector of Schools, Nagaur.

Administrative set-up

Before the merger of the State of Jodhpur, the Education Department with its head office at Jodhpur controlled all educational institutions of the state. The Director of Education, the Deputy Director of Education, Inspector of Schools and Inspectress of Girls' Schools had their offices at Jodhpur. There were four Deputy Inspectors of Schools, one of whom was headquartered at Merta City, and was in over-all charge of the educational institutions of the area now included in Nagaur district. He was supposed to inspect each primary and middle school once a year. The girls' schools were under the charge of the Inspectress of Girls' Schools.

After the formation of Rajasthan, one Deputy Director was posted at Jodhpur to look after educational institutions in the division. Upto 30th April, 1955 the Inspector of Schools posted at Jodhpur was in-charge of Nagaur district. He was assisted in this work by a Deputy Inspector of Schools headquartered at Nagaur. The latter held administrative charge of middle and primary schools of the district and was assisted by three sub-inspectors of schools with headquarters at Nagaur, Parvatsar and Merta who were required to inspect boys' primary schools. Adult Education classes were supervised by the Deputy Inspector and Sub-Deputy Inspector.

The Inspectorate of Schools was created in Nagaur district on 1st May, 1955 with an Inspector of Schools as its head. He is being assisted since 1966, by two Deputy Inspectors of Schools and one Sub-Deputy Inspector of Schools. Primary and middle schools are inspected by the Deputy Inspectors of Schools and secondary and higher secondary schools by the Inspector of Schools. On the formation of Panchayat Samitis, the management of primary schools located in rural areas was transferred to them, which were to be controlled by Education Extension Officers, posted in each Panchayat Samiti. The Inspector of Schools and the Deputy Inspectors of Schools were to be available to the Panchayat Samitis for advice and guidance.

New Trends

The fifties of this century marked an era of new trends and many sided expansion in the field of education. During the First Five Year Plan, the unification of the educational system prevailing in covenanting states and in various stages of development was effected. The number of teaching institutions in the district multiplied through constant efforts. During the Second Five Year Plan, long-term objectives in regard to development of educational facilities both in regard to quantitative expansion and qualitative

improvement were laid down. It was envisaged that the entire age-group of 6-11 would be brought to schools and coverage of the age-group 11-14 would be raised to 50 per cent in 15 years, and all existing primary schools would be converted into junior basic schools within ten years. In consonance with the recommendations of the Secondary Education Commission, the Government of India's policy of having the three-year higher secondary course followed by a three-year degree course was to be adopted¹. Some primary schools were raised to middle standard and some middle schools were up-graded as secondary schools. Scholarships to students going abroad for technical education were also provided. The girls' education, physical education and cultural education were paid due attention. During 1960-61, a special enrolment drive for girls was organised in addition to the enrolment drive for children in the 6-11 age-group. The nationalisation of text books which was started in 1950 was enforced for all classes upto the middle standard under which good text books on reasonable rates were published by the Board of Nationalisation of Text Books, Rajasthan, on no profit no loss basis. A pilot scheme was introduced under which special grants were given to certain selected teaching institutions for improving the teaching facilities provided by them.

GENERAL EDUCATION

Primary Schools

Most of the primary schools are mixed schools where both boys and girls are allowed to study. The medium of instruction is ordinarily Hindi.

As already stated, after the introduction of Democratic Decentralisation scheme in the State, primary schools in rural areas were entrusted to the care of Panchayat Samitis in October 1959. Panchayat Samiti-wise details of such primary schools were as follows²:

Panchayat Samiti	Number of Primary Schools
Nagaur	30
Mundwa	33
Jayal	55
Kuchaman City	69
Parvatsar	40
Riyan	46
Degana	41
Merta City	35

1. *Second Five Year Plan, Progress Report, Rajasthan, 1956-61*, pp. 180-181.
2. Source : Office of the Inspector of Schools, Nagaur.

i	2
Ladnun	45
Makrana	54
Didwana	88
Total	536

The number of primary schools is increasing fast as a result of the policy of the State to provide free elementary education to all school-going children. Details of the growth of primary and junior basic schools in the district, teachers employed and scholars studying therein are given in the following table¹:

Year	Primary & Junior basic Schools	(Number)			
		Teachers		Scholars	
		Males	Females	Boys	Girls
1957-58	417	583	47	17,136	3,376
1958-59	501	694	62	22,673	3,551
1959-60	617	860	62	30,641	4,039
1960-61	722	1,044	84	34,446	5,396
1961-62	786	1,150	119	35,139	6,351
1962-63	837	1,263	85	40,109	6,316
1963-64	828	1,246	90	43,211	7,385
1964-65	855	1,348	117	43,388	8,955
1965-66	865	1,477	127	47,980	10,567
1966-67	848	1,517	132	49,842	11,251
1967-68	849	1,571	138	49,607	11,683
1969-70 ²	873	2,051	103	46,767	5,703

Middle Schools

The number of middle schools in the district according to the 1951 Census was 21. Their growth since 1957-58 is given in the following table³:

Year	Middle and Senior basic Schools	(Number)			
		Teachers		Scholars	
		Males	Females	Boys	Girls
1957-58	39	278	41	5,958	1,920

1. *Statistical Abstract Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.
2. Provisional figures supplied by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
3. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.

1	2	3	4	5	6
1958-59	42	307	46	6,989	2,201
1959-60	49	376	79	8,782	2,418
1960-61	59	440	85	10,365	2,427
1961-62	66	498	72	11,638	2,322
1962-63	66	566	56	12,806	2,137
1963-64	71	618	75	13,490	2,493
1964-65	74	619	87	15,017	2,985
1965-66	76	630	89	17,021	3,381
1966-67	81	639	88	17,865	3,840
1967-68	81	661	87	17,959	3,816
1968-69	81	693	93	18,314	3,415
1969-70	81	693	93	18,517	4,921

The location, management, the number of students and teachers of middle schools for boys in the district as on 31st March, 1970 are given in Appendix I. Details about the girls' schools are given in Appendix III.

High and Higher Secondary Schools

There were six high schools in the district in year 1951. As against this, in the year 1956-57, the number of higher secondary schools was three and of high schools ten. During the Second Five Year Plan, following the recommendations of the Mudaliar Commission on Secondary Education, more higher secondary schools were opened and the existing high schools were also converted into higher secondary schools

Multi-purpose Higher Secondary Schools

There was no multi-purpose higher secondary school in the district prior to 1959-60. Three such schools were opened during the Second Five Year Plan and continued to function with no increase in their number upto 31st March, 1970. Out of these three multi-purpose higher secondary schools, two are State-owned, located at Nagaur and Ladnun. The third school at Ladnun is an aided school. Details of teachers and students in these schools since 1960-61 are given below² :

Year	(Number)	
	Teachers	Students
1960-61	77	1,536
1965-66	66	1,593
1966-67	74	1,962

1. Provisional figures supplied by the Inspector of Schools, Nagaur.

2. Source : Offices of the Headmasters of the concerning Schools.

1	2	3
1967-68	74	1,975
1968-69	75	2,140
1969-70	83	2,298

The total number of secondary (high) and higher secondary schools in the district was 34 in 1969-70. Details about these are given in Appendix II.

Colleges

There were three colleges for general education in the district as on 31st March, 1970. They are described below :

BANGUR COLLEGE, DIDWANA—It was started originally as primary school with 19 students and one teacher on 22nd June, 1935, under the name of *Shri Sanatan Dharma Vidyalaya* by the public of Didwana. It passed through many stages in succession viz., recognised primary school, unrecognised middle school, recognised middle school and then a high school in 1944. It was run and financed by Bangurs of Didwana upto 14th September, 1951 and was then taken over by the State Government, and up-graded as an intermediate college. The institution was raised to the standard of a degree college in the year 1958. It imparts education for pre-university and Three Years' Degree Course in the faculties of Arts, Commerce and Science. It has a spacious building of its own having ten big and eight small class rooms, one big and two medium sized halls and eight well-equipped laboratories. There are adequate play grounds for playing volley ball, basket ball, foot ball and tennis etc. Attached to the college is a hostel (*Bangur Chhatravas*) which was constructed in the year 1956 in the college campus; it can accommodate 55 students. Subject associations have been formed by the students of Economics, Commerce, Hindi and History. A speciality of the college is the provision of the facility for studies for three years' degree course in Geology. The amounts of scholarships awarded during the years 1962-63 to 1969-70 were as follows¹ :

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1962-63	16,441
1963-64	13,869
1964-65	14,885
1965-66	14,970
1966-67	12,675

1. Source : Office of the Principal, Bangur College, Didwana.

1	2
1967-68	8,266
1968-69	14,221
1969-70	9,358

The college has a well maintained library containing about eighteen thousand volumes on various subjects like Commerce, Science, Philosophy, History, English and Hindi literatures, religion etc. A number of magazines and periodicals are subscribed in the library. Attached to the main library is a text book library sponsored by the University Grants Commission, New Delhi, from where books are issued to the poor and needy students for a full session. In the new Library building constructed with the assistance of the University Grants Commission, cubicles (cabins) for researchers have been provided.

The total number of teachers and students on roll during the year 1952-53 was 36 and 104 respectively which increased to 40 and 387 respectively in the year 1957-58. Details of teachers and scholars in subsequent years are given below¹ :

Year	(Number)	
	Teachers	Students
1958-59	11	153
1959-60	19	215
1960-61	19	182
1961-62	25	252
1962-63	24	312
1963-64	25	342
1964-65	28	391
1965-66	28	448
1966-67	33	658
1967-68	33	614
1968-69	35	635
1969-70	39	534

MOTILAL BENGANI SCIENCE COLLEGE, LADNUN—This institution provides educational facilities only in the Science faculty. It was established in the year 1968 by the Government of Rajasthan. Seth Hanuman Mal Bengani donated funds for the construction of the building and the college was named after his father Seth Motilal Bengani. At present,

1. Source : Office of the Principal, Bangur College, Didwana.

(1969-70) the college is housed in the Government Higher Secondary School building at Ladnun but the new building at Jaswantgarh, about 8 km. from Ladnun, is under construction where it will be shifted after its completion. It is affiliated to the University of Rajasthan and imparts education for three years' degree course in Science. The subjects taught are Chemistry, Physics, Biology, Botany, Zoology and Mathematics. There were about twelve hundred books as on 31st March, 1970 in the college library and 30 magazines and periodicals were subscribed. One Science Students Association is functioning in the College.

The total strength of teaching staff was eight during the year 1968-69 which increased to nine in 1969-70. The number of students which was 38 in 1968-69 also increased to 75 in 1969-70.

GOVERNMENT COLLEGE, NAGAU—This College was started by the Rajasthan Government on 4th August, 1969 and prepares students for three years' degree course examination in all the three faculties, conducted by the University of Rajasthan, Jaipur. In addition to the compulsory subjects like General Hindi, General English, General Education and History of Indian Culture and Civilisation, taught in all the three faculties of Arts, Commerce and Science, optional subjects such as Economics, Hindi Literature, History, English Literature and Political Science are taught in Arts faculty. Similarly optional subjects like Accountancy and Statistics, Economics, Business Statistics and Steno-typing are taught in Commerce faculty and Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and Biology in the Science faculty. The Science faculty was introduced in the College in the year 1970-71.

The college building consists of twenty class rooms, four laboratories and two lecture theatres, besides one room each for the Principal, Vice-Principal, office staff, girls, stores and water.

There are adequate number of play grounds attached to the college where facilities for playing basket ball, cricket, hockey and volley ball are available. There are about two thousand five hundred books relating to Arts, Commerce and Science subjects in the college library. A number of daily newspapers, weeklies and fortnightlies and monthly magazines are subscribed to by the library and the open shelf system is in vogue. There were six lecturers and fifty two students including two girls during the year 1969-70.

Scheduled Tribes/Castes scholarships amounting to Rs. 319 were awarded to three students and National Loan Scholarship amounting to Rs. 720 was advanced to one student during the year 1969-70. There was no activity of National Cadet Corps in the institution in the year 1969-70.

LITERACY AND EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS

Literacy

According to the 1901 Census, 5.4 per cent of the people (10 per cent males and 0.3 per cent of females) were able to read and write in Jodhpur State, which stood second among the twenty States and chiefships of Rajputana with regard to literacy of population¹. Despite the expansion of educational facilities, the majority of the people in the district are still illiterate, although the percentage of literacy, has since improved. According to the 1951 census, the percentage of literates was 6.3 (10.4 for males and 1.9 for females). The figures showed great variation in rural and urban areas as depicted in the inset table :

Population	Percentage of literate persons		
	Total	Males	Females
Rural	4.4	7.2	1.3
Urban	19.1	31.9	6.1

The literacy percentage of the total population went up to 13.3 in 1961 from 6.3 in 1951. Although this shows a significant progress during this decade, but the district is still far behind when compared to the percentages of literate persons in educationally advanced districts like Ajmer and Bikaner in which the literacy percentages stood at 25.3 and 23.2 respectively. The percentage of literates in Rajasthan as a whole, however, was 15.2 in urban areas.

The total number of literates and educated persons in 1961 was, 1,22,945 (1,01,602 males and 22,343 females). The percentage of literate males to male population was 21.1 and that of literate females to female population 4.9.

In 1951, the number² of those who claimed to have passed middle school examination was 941 (670 males and 271 females); those who had passed matriculation school leaving certificate or higher secondary examinations numbered 422 (412 males and 10 females); intermediates were 69 (all males), degree or diploma holders were 241 (240 males and 1 female) and graduates and post-graduates 120 and 5 respectively (all males). Persons with specialised qualifications in teaching were 18 in engineering, 2 in agriculture, 2 in veterinary science, 1 in commerce, 1 in law, 14 in medicine and in other subjects 77.

The position of educational levels had, of course, improved much,

1. Erskine, K.D., *Rajputana Gazetteers*, Vol. III-A, p. 166.

2. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Nagaur, Part I*, pp. 82-83.

particularly in urban areas by 1961 as compared to that of 1951, due to rapid increase in the number of educational institutions. The details of educational levels in urban areas in 1961 are given in the inset table¹:

(Number)			
Educational level	Males	Females	Total
1. Literate (without educational level)	22,216	8,506	30,722
2. Primary or Junior Basic	3,157	1,143	4,300
3. Matriculation or higher secondary	1,868	219	2,087
4. Technical diploma not equal to degree	4	4	8
5. Non-technical diploma not equal to degree	6	18	64
6. University degree or post-graduate degree other than technical degree	429	31	460
7. Technical degree or diploma equal to degree or post-graduate degree			
(i) Engineering	6	—	6
(ii) Medicine	17	3	20
(iii) Veterinary and dairying	1	—	1
(iv) Teaching	1	—	1
Total	27,745	9,924	37,669

During 1961, in rural areas of the district, the number of those who had passed primary or junior basic examination was 3,325 (3,052 males and 273 females) and of those having passed matriculation and higher examinations was 2,033 (1,986 males and 47 females).

EDUCATION OF WOMEN

As mentioned earlier, the female education was generally neglected in the erstwhile Jodhpur State till the early years of this century partly due to the apathy of the State Government and partly because of tradition-bound public opinion which did not like to impart education to the girls. During 1932-33 there were four State lower primary girls' schools in the district, one each located at Nawa, Nagaur, Didwana and Mundwa. At Ladnun there was one aided lower primary school for girls². During the year 1934-35, attempts were made to include out-door activities such as gardening etc. in the curriculum of female education. Some progress was also made towards expansion of female education when the number of girls' lower primary schools increased to nine as five new schools were opened, one each at Merta City, Maroth, Makrana, Parvatsar and

1. *Census of India 1961, Rajasthan District Census Handbook, Nagaur*, pp. 194-95.

2. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1932-33*, p. 33.

Kuchera¹. In 1940-41 the girls' lower primary school at Didwana was raised to primary level². Two more girls' lower primary schools at Makrana and Nagaur were upgraded as middle schools. The number of girls' middle schools rose to five in the area during the year 1945-46. They were located at Didwana, Makrana, Nagaur, Nawa and Ladnun³. During the year 1951, there were five girls' middle schools and 12 girls' primary schools in Nagaur district⁴.

Details relating to girls' institutions in 1960-61, 1965-66, 1967-68, 1968-69 and 1969-70 are given below⁵:

Year	(Number)							
	Primary Schools		Middle Schools			Secondary Schools		
	Teachers	Students	Schools	Teachers	Students	Schools	Teachers	Students
1960-61	3	35	5	31	362	1	7	98
1965-66	13	39	7	48	739	3	22	272
1967-68	22	182	8	74	1,352	4	28	402
1968-69	31	1,181	8	81	1,468	5	37	581
1969-70	79	2,524	9	89	2,230	5	54	894

During the year 1969-70 there were five secondary schools for girls in the district one each located at Nagaur, Kuchaman, Ladnun, Didwana and Nawa. All these were state-owned.

The number of girls' middle and primary schools in the district during the year 1969-70 was nine and twenty nine respectively. Out of nine girls' middle schools eight were run by the Government of Rajasthan and one was an aided institution. Out of twenty nine girls' primary schools, 6 were State run and twenty three were under the control of Panchayat Samitis. Details of middle and primary schools for girls are given at Appendix III.

EDUCATION OF BACKWARD CLASSES

The administration during the times of the princely rule was not oblivious to the educational problems of backward and depressed classes. However, not much was accomplished in this regard before Independence to improve the lot of the depressed and backward classes. After Independence, the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and backward sections of the society especially in the field of education has received special attention. The students belonging to these classes receive Government scholarships, boarding and lodging facilities in hostels run by the

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, 1934-35, pp. 46-47.

2. *ibid.*, 1940-41, p. 41.

3. *ibid.*, 1945-46, p. 102.

4. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Nagaur, Part I*, p.vi.

5. Source : Office of the Deputy Inspector of Girls' School, Jodhpur.

State Social Welfare Department and other voluntary organisations. An account of the educational facilities provided to the Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste students is given in Chapter XVII viz. Other Social Services. It may, however, be mentioned here that the students of these classes admitted in all the schools, are entitled to certain concessions with regards to lodging, boarding and other educational facilities.

According to the 1961 Census, the number of persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, in urban areas of the district was 11,615 (6,039 males and 5,576 females) of which 1,536 persons (1,220 males and 316 females) were literate (without educational level), 234 persons (168 males and 66 females) had qualified upto primary or junior basic level and 77 were matriculates or qualified in higher secondary examination. In rural areas the total population of Scheduled Castes was 1,51,554 (77,721 males and 73,833 females) of which 5,106 persons (4,937 males and 169 females) were literate (without educational level) 229 (226 males and 3 females) had primary or junior basic level education and 27 (all males) were with qualifications of matriculation and above.

The number of Scheduled Tribe persons in the district is very small. In urban areas there were 207 such persons (119 males and 88 females) of which only 7 (all males) were literate (without educational level). In rural areas, such persons numbered 2,672 (1,365 males and 1,307 females) of whom ninety six were literate (without educational level); only one was qualified upto primary or junior basic level and one was matriculate.

PROFESSIONAL AND TECHNICAL SCHOOLS

There are no professional or technical schools or colleges such as would cater to legal, medical, teachers' training, technical, engineering, agricultural, technological or commercial education in the district. Nevertheless, there exists an Industrial Training Institute at Nagaur which was started in November, 1962 under Craftsmen Scheme of the Government of India for imparting training in various trades as certificate courses. The details of trades in which training is imparted and certificates awarded are as follows (1969-70):

Particulars	Duration of course (Years)	Intake capacity (No.)
Fitter	2	16
Carpenter	1	16
Wireman	2	16
Electrician	2	16
Motor Mechanic	1	16

1	2	3
Radio Mechanic	2	32
Welder	1	12
Pattern Maker	1	16
Blacksmith	1	16

The Institute maintains a library where three hundred books on technical subjects and thirty books on State rules and regulations are available. The total area of land occupied by the Industrial Training Institute is 25 acres (10 hectares). There is no separate building for students hostel but seven class rooms are being utilised for the lodging of the trainees. Cots (bedsteads), light and water are provided to the trainees free of cost (only to those who reside in the so-called hostel). The equipment provided in the institute consists of drilling machines, welding tools, electric meters and motors, generators, engines etc. The staff of the Institute as on 31st March, 1970 included a Superintendent, a foreman, an upper division clerk, a lower division clerk, a compounder, six crafts instructors and ten class IV servants. Details of teachers and students during various years are given in the following table¹:

Year	Teachers	(Number)
		Students
1964-65	13	75
1965-66	10	27
1966-67	10	37
1967-68	9	45
1968-69	9	44
1969-70	7	46

Thirty-three per cent students of the total strength get stipend of Rs. 25 per student per month.

SPECIAL EDUCATION

Sanskrit Institutions

A description of the institutions of Sanskrit education in the district is given below:

SHRI RAMANUJ SANSKRIT VIDYALAYA, DIDWANA—This institution was started on *Vaishakh Shukla Tritiya, Samvat 1965 (1909 A.D.)* to promote education in Sanskrit. Subjects taught in the *Vidyalaya* are Sanskrit literature, Grammar, Hindi, Civics, Ayurved and Astrology. The students

1. Source : Office of the Superintendent, Industrial Training Institute, Nagaur.

are prepared for *Praveshika* (2 year course), *Upadhyaya* (one year course) and *Shastri* (3 year course) examinations. The institution has a library of about two thousand five hundred books relating to the subjects taught there. A hostel is also attached to the school and it can accommodate 30 students. The total number of students and teachers during various years was as follows:

Year	Students	Teachers
1950-51	36	3
1955-56	39	4
1960-61	40	5
1965-66	25	5
1966-67	29	5
1967-68	31	5
1968-69	29	5
1969-70	30	5

SRI SANATANADHARMA SANSKRIT MAHAVIDYALAYA, MUNDWA—This institution was opened on 18th February, 1942, with co-operation rendered and donations given by the public of Mundwa. It prepares students for Acharya examination and the subjects taught are grammar, literature etc. There is a hostel attached to the institution for 14 boarders. There are two thousand books in the library. The number of students and teachers during various years was as follows:

Year	Students	Teachers
1950-51	30	1
1955-56	50	1
1960-61	70	2
1965-66	100	3
1966-67	125	4
1967-68	150	5
1968-69	150	6
1969-70	150	6

PAREEK SANSKRIT COLLEGE, MERTA CITY—This institution was started by Pareek Board of Trustees on 1st July, 1921 for preparing students to appear in the *Prathma* and *Madhyama* (Sanskrit) examinations conducted by the Banaras Sanskrit College. It was recognised by the State in the year 1937-38 and was upgraded as college in the year 1941. It is now a post-graduate college for Sanskrit education. This institution got recognition for preparing students for *Shastri* examination in the year 1941 and

for *Acharya* in the year 1958. It now prepares students for *Praveshika* and *Upadhyaya* examinations of the Board of Secondary Education, Rajasthan, Ajmer and *Shastri* and *Acharya* examinations of the University of Rajasthan, Jaipur. It also provides for the teaching of *Vedas* on traditional lines. Education is imparted free here and only games fee is charged. The institution is housed in a spacious building having about 15 rooms constructed with the help of public donations. There is a hostel attached, where about sixty students can be accommodated. Free boarding and lodging is given to poor students. There is a library having about two thousand books on various subjects studied in the institution. The number of students and teachers in the institution during various years was as follows:

Year	Students on roll			Teachers
	Boys	Girls	Total	
1950-51	80	5	85	3
1955-56	96	—	96	4
1960-61	149	—	149	6
1965-66	161	10	171	9
1966-67	169	7	176	9
1967-68	173	15	188	8
1968-69	216	19	235	10
1969-70	220	23	243	10

Out of the total strength of the students during the session 1969-70, 30 final year's students were preparing for *Praveshika*, 6 for *Upadhyaya*, 1 for *Shastri* and 2 for *Acharya* examinations. The National Cadet Corps was introduced in the institution in 1960. There were about sixty five cadets and two teachers associated with it in 1969-70. The income and expenditure of the institution during the last four years ending 1969-70 were as follows:

Year	(Rs. '000)	
	Income	Expenditure
1966-67	26.1	23.7
1967-68	19.4	28.8
1968-69	31.1	31.1
1969-70	40.7	40.8

Madarsas

There are two *madarsas* (schools) in the district details of which are given below:

MADARSA HANAFIA SUFIA, NAGOUR—This was opened in the year

1950 as a primary school and is continuing still as such. The building for the school has been built by public donations. There is no hostel accommodation for the students but a small library having about one hundred books and a small play ground exist in the school. Besides Urdu, other subjects taught are Hindi, Arithmetic, Social Studies, General Science, Crafts and Drawing. The number of students and teachers in the institution since 1950-51 have been as follows :

Year	Students		Teachers
	Boys	Girls	
1950-51	42	14	1
1955-56	103	12	3
1960-61	160	73	5
1965-66	205	90	8
1966-67	209	105	9
1967-68	213	78	10
1968-69	273	99	10
1969-70	344	106	10

THE AHMEDIA MADARSA, MERTA CITY—This was started on 1st September, 1961 for imparting primary education. The building of the *Madarsa* has been constructed by the donations raised by the Muslims of Merta City. In this school, subjects taught, besides Urdu, include Hindi, Arithmetic, Social Studies, General Science, Drawing, Crafts and English. The number of students and teachers during the years 1962-63 to 1969-70 was as follows :

Year	Students		Teachers
	Boys	Girls	
1962-63	69	24	4
1965-66	130	29	4
1966-67	129	18	4
1967-68	122	15	3
1968-69	112	28	4
1969-70	126	26	4

SOCIAL EDUCATION

Social education in former Jodhpur State was mainly provided in adult night schools. The Education Department supervised these schools and paid grants. In the year 1954 adult night schools were started for *Harijans* at three places in the district viz., Kushambi, Nagaur, and Bawal and the teachers were paid Rs. 15 per month¹. Adult education centres,

1. Source : Office of the Deputy Director, Social Education, Rajasthan, Bikaner.

recreation centres, youth clubs and reading rooms were also opened in the Panchayat Samitis of the district. The Panchayat Samitis are entrusted with the task of organising adult literacy classes and undertaking allied social education activities, such as the organisation of youth clubs, *Mahila Mandals*, the setting up of community centres, reading rooms, provision of community radio sets etc. At the village level, the *gram sevak* (village level worker) is supposed to execute these programmes according to the local conditions and needs. The number of centres and persons made literate in Nagaur district during 1959-60 to 1969-70 is given below :

Year	Centres	Persons
1959-60	3	40
1960-61	109	683
1961-62	99	972
1962-63	142	1,584
1963-64	301	3,451
1964-65	365	4,269
1965-66	296	3,556
1966-67	301	3,752
1967-68	234	3,219
1968-69	225	3,861
1969-70	124	1,892

NATIONAL CADET CORPS

Since its beginning, the National Cadet Corps has been playing a significant role in nation building. It has helped in the cultivation of discipline, and inculcating a feeling of patriotism and sense of responsibility amongst the students. Strength of National Cadet Corps in the district has been as follows1 :

Year	(Number)			
	Senior Division Officers	Division Cadets	Junior Division Officers	Division Cadets
1965-66	1	34	2	200
1966-67	1	23	2	200
1967-68	1	40	1	100
1968-69	1	50	1	100
1969-70	1	50	1	100

SCOUTS AND GIRL GUIDES

The scouting was introduced in the former Jodhpur State in the year

1. Source: Office of the Officer Commanding, 12th Rajasthan Battalion NCC, Jodhpur.

1922-23. Two teachers were trained as scout masters and headed two troops of 48 boy scouts each¹. The Girls Guides movement also made considerable progress under the District Commissioner for Girl Guides and there were Girl Guide Companies and Blue-Bird Flocks. In 1932-33 two girl guides were sent to Otacamand for training. The girl guide movement was directly under the control of All India Girl Guide Association, Calcutta. During the year 1937-38, annual Scout Rallies were held at Merta City and Didwana. The Nagaur Association of the Scouts and Guides was established in the year 1943². During the year 1942-43, there was one Cadet Ranger's Company and 12 Blue-Bird Flocks. The grand scout rally held at Jodhpur in 1955 was attended by many scouts from the district. The scout and guides perform social service in fairs held in the district periodically. They did commendable work during the 1965 Pakistan hostilities by engaging in fire fighting work, rescue operations, first aid and civil defence.

There were eight local scout associations as on 31st March, 1970 in the district. Details of scouts and girl guides are given in Appendix IV.

CULTURE

Literature and Men of letters

Very little is known of the cultural life, literature and men of letters of the district in ancient period. Merta which has been an important place in the district and is now the sub-divisional headquarters has the distinction of producing a number of scholars and poets. The great poetess Mirabai belonged to this area. Her important works are said to be *Geet Govind-kitika*, *Narsi-ro-Mayro*, *Satyabhamaji-no-Roosno*, *Raag Sorath*, *Raag Govind* and *Padawali*³. Madhodass Dadhwadia born at Baluda village of Merta Pargana near about *Samvat* years 1610-15 (1553-58 A. D.) was a contemporary of Prithviraj Rathor. He was a court poet of the then Jodhpur ruler. He has written *Ramarso*, *Bhasha Dhashamkand* and *Gajmokh*. Besides being a poet, he was a great devotee⁴. Bharat Asho Bhanes wrote a book entitled *Beli-ra-Deidas Jetawatri* in the *Samvat* year 1620 (1563 A. D.) in which he has described the victory of Devidass, over Merta⁵. Jambhoji, founder of Bishnoi sect was born at Peepasar village of Nagaur Pargana on *Bhadon badi Ashtmi* of *Samvat* year 1508 (1451 A. D.). He has written many *Padawalis* which are sung by his followers and others. Haridasji was born

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, 1922-23, p. 63.

2. Source : Office of the Divisional Secretary, Rajasthan State Bharat Scouts and Guides, Jodhpur.

3. For controversy see Maheshwari, Hiralal, *Rajasthan Bhasha Aur Sahitya*, p. 323,

4. *ibid.*, p. 169.

5. *ibid.*, p. 120.

in village Kaprod of Didwana *Pargana*. He commanded great fame and respect in his area and made many disciples who followed the sect known as Niranjani. His work was published in *Samvat* 1988 (1931 A. D.) by a *Sadhu* Devadass of Jodhpur under the title *Shri Haripurushji-ki-vani*. The district has produced a number of writers and poets of repute in modern times.

Music and Dance

There is not much tradition of music and dance in the district. Nevertheless, some persons from the district have attained all India fame in classical music. *Terah tali* dance of this area has been very famous and *Terah tali* dance party of Tasina village of Didwana tahsil went to Russia where its performance was very much appreciated.

NAGOUR KALA MANDAL, NAGOUR—It was formed in 1950 and has organised many *Kavi Sammelans*, *Mushairas*, music conferences and dramas on various occasions, particularly at the time of fairs.

SARASWATI KALA MANDIR, PARVATSAR—It was started in 1964 to teach music and dance to children of 8-15 age-group.

RASHTRIYA KALA MANDIR, KUCHAMAN CITY—Founded in 1941 by some enthusiastic art loving people of Kuchaman City, it was renamed as Rashtriya Kala Mandir on 18th July, 1954. The main aim of the organisation is to popularise music and fine arts among the public. Music classes are also run by it. The management of the institution is looked after by the executive committee consisting of the President, the Vice President, the Secretary, Joint Secretary and eleven members. It has its own orchestra, and other material required for staging plays etc. There were two hundred members on roll as on 31st March, 1970.

SANGEET KALA MANDAL, NAGOUR—It was established in the year 1960 with the efforts of some art loving residents of Nagaur. This mandal organised many dramatic shows in the year 1965 at the time of Pakistani attack and collected money for the Defence Fund. Besides, it organises *Kavi Sammelans*, *Mushairas* and music conferences in the fairs etc. It also started an institute to teach music and dance. It is managed by a committee of fifteen members including a President, a Vice-President, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

No cultural, literary and scientific journals are published from this district.

LIBRARIES

In addition to the libraries maintained by various educational

institutions, there are eight public libraries in the district, details of which are given below:

Shri Didwana Hindi Pustakalaya, Didwana

It was founded in the year 1916 (*Samvat* 1973) by local enthusiasts in a rented space with the public co-operation and donations. Now this library has its own building situated outside Nagauri Gate on the Station Road. There are about eleven thousand books of which ten thousand are in Hindi and one thousand in English. The books available in the library relate to subjects like literature, Economics, History, Poetry, Arts, Astrology, Philosophy, Religions, Geography, Law, Vedic literature, Science and Agriculture. Certain rare manuscripts also constitute the proud-possession of this library. It has provided a separate room for scholars and research workers who want to study and consult books in the library. It is the oldest library in the district and functions on modern lines. Average attendance is about 150 persons per day. It is a registered institution and has been recognised by the Rajasthan Government. The management of the library is in the hands of a committee comprising of eleven members. There were four persons in the staff as on 31st March, 1970.

Shri Kuchaman Pustakalaya, Kuchaman

It was started in the year 1930 by Seth Jhotalal Baheti of Kuchaman and is housed in its own building near Bus Stand. The total number of books in the library is about five thousand, which relate to Religion, Literature, History, Geography, Philosophy, Arts and Science. It has been registered under the Societies Registration Act and has framed its own constitution. The management of the library is in the hands of an executive committee, members of which are elected once in three years. There were 100 members during 1969-70. The staff consists of a librarian and a peon.

District Library, Nagaur

It was opened in the year 1955 and is being run by the State Education Department since 18th March, 1956. The library is housed in a building constructed with the help of public co-operation and donations. It is located in the heart of the City, and has about eight thousand books in Hindi, English, Sanskrit, Urdu on various subjects. There were three persons on its staff including one librarian, one lower division clerk and a peon in 1969-70. The number of members was 441 as on 31st March, 1970.

Meera Library, Merta City

It was founded in the year 1940 under the name of Youngmen's Club. The name was changed to Meera Library in the year 1950. It has

its own building now which was constructed in 1954 with the help of public co-operation and donations. The library has about two thousand books on various subjects like religion, philosophy, drama, poetry, personal culture etc. There were about 50 members in 1969-70. The library is managed by a committee having 13 members in all. There were two persons on the staff as on 31st March, 1970.

Jai Shiva Pustakalaya, Makrana

It was established in 1955 by the public in memory of a saint who lived here for a long time and died in 1954. The management of the *Pustakalaya* is in the hands of a local committee under a trust. There are about five hundred books in the library. A reading room is also run alongwith the library.

Maulana Azad Library, Makrana

It was started on 14th October, 1967 by some Muslim young men. There are about five hundred books mostly in Urdu, on religion and fiction.

Mahavir Pustakalaya, Merta

This *Pustakalaya* was opened in the year 1969. There are about twelve hundred books on religion and culture. Four daily newspapers, eight weeklies, one fortnightly and nine monthly magazines are subscribed in the library. The average daily attendance of readers is about fifty to sixty.

Nagaur Zila Sarvodaya Mandal, Makrana

It has a mobile library and reading room which provides books and periodicals to the readers at their residences and collects the same from them without any fee. There are about four hundred books regarding Sarvodaya literature.

APPENDIX I

Boys' Middle Schools in Nagaur District During 1969-70

S. No.	Name of School	Management	Tahsil	Students		Teachers
				Boys	Girls	
1.	Govt. Middle School, Didwana	Govt.	Didwana	298	25	17
2.	Govt. Bangur School, "	"	"	324	18	18
3.	Govt. Middle School, Merta City	"	Merta	542	19	21
4.	Govt. Middle School, Nagaur (No.1)	"	Nagaur	644	27	29
5.	" " " " (No.2)	"	"	414	79	17
6.	Parmanand Middle School, Didwana	Aided	Didwana	197	7	11
7.	Govt. Surajmal Bhomraj, School, Kuchaman	Govt.	Nawa	528	1	17
8.	Madarsa Anjuman, Makrana	Aided	Parvatsar	522	—	14
9.	Govt. Middle School, Shri Balaji	Govt.	Nagaur	174	20	9
10.	" " " " , Gogelao	"	Nagaur	143	39	9
11.	" " " " , Jodhiyasi	"	"	180	23	9
12.	" " " " , Roon	"	"	200	38	9
13.	" " " " , Khajwana	"	"	197	36	9
14.	" " " " , Sankhwas	"	"	185	25	9
15.	" " " " , Panchla Sidha	"	"	146	3	8
16.	" " " " , Rol	"	Jayal	267	20	12
17.	" " " " , Janewa	"	"	158	—	8
18.	" " " " , Badi Khatu	"	"	286	28	11
19.	" " " " , Deh	"	"	253	8	10
20.	" " " " , Kathoti	"	"	196	28	8
21.	" " " " , Khinyala	"	"	254	34	9
22.	" " " " , Somra	"	"	150	7	9
23.	" " " " , Ledy	"	Ladnun	247	17	11
24.	" " " " , Ratau	"	"	187	16	10
25.	" " " " , Akoda	"	Didwana	166	27	8
26.	" " " " , Ladariya	"	"	170	4	10
27.	" " " " , Nimbod	"	"	238	39	10
28.	" " " " , Beri Jatanpura	"	"	271	15	12
29.	" " " " , Khunkhuna	"	"	225	37	12
30.	" " " " , Chhoti Chhatri	"	"	215	8	9
31.	" " " " , Kayamsar	"	"	179	8	7
32.	" " " " , Singhana	"	"	181	9	8
33.	" " " " , Khakholi	"	"			
34.	" " " " , Sagu Badi	"	"	181	19	9
35.	" " " " , Mithri	"	Nawa	264	37	11
36.	" " " " , Minda	"	"	273	37	13

APPENDIX I (Concl'd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
37.	Govt. Middle School	Kunkanwali	Govt. Nawa	324	11	14
38.	"	"	"	198	38	11
39.	"	"	"	167	20	11
40.	"	"	"	Parvatsar	5 9	44 13
41.	"	"	"	Boodsu	303	2 10
42.	"	"	"	Gachipura	284	32 10
43.	"	"	"	Ranigaon	179	15 8
44.	"	"	"	Bhichawa	215	8 9
45.	"	"	"	Harnawa	272	27 10
46.	"	"	"	Bajoli	177	6 8
47.	"	"	"	Besroli	175	23 9
48.	"	"	"	Manana	241	29 9
49.	"	"	"	Bhakri Molas	182	5 8
50.	"	"	"	Badoo	307	16 9
51.	"	"	"	Peelwa	189	8 9
52.	"	"	"	Rid	237	25 9
53.	"	"	"	Baggot	106	15 7
54.	"	"	"	Bajwas	143	25 9
55.	"	"	"	Janjila	126	17 7
56.	"	"	"	Ewad	Jayal	258 52 13
57.	"	"	"	Harsor	Degana	217 50 13
58.	"	"	"	Jakhera	"	184 7 9
59.	"	"	"	Palri Kalan	"	147 18 9
60.	"	"	"	Bikharniya	"	151 21 9
61.	"	"	"	Nimbri Kalan	"	113 30 7
62.	"	"	"	Padu Kalan	Merta	178 20 9
63.	"	"	"	Jasnagar	"	287 36 14
64.	"	"	"	Alniyawas	Degana	164 26 10
65.	"	"	"	Bagar	Merta	227 15 9
66.	"	"	"	Bherunda	Degana	196 27 11
67.	"	"	"	Dangawas	Merta	209 5 10
68.	"	"	"	Gagrana	"	186 35 8
69.	"	"	"	Gotan	"	480 12 17
70.	"	"	"	Harsolao	"	164 4 9
71.	"	"	"	Basni Seja	"	166 — 8
72.	"	"	"	Nokha		
		Chandawatn	"	129	17	10

Source: Office of the Inspector of Schools, Nagaur (figures provisional),

APPENDIX II

Statement of Secondary & Higher Secondary Schools in Nagaur District during the year 1969-70

S. No.	Name of the School	Management	Tahsil	No. of students		No. of teachers	
				Boys	Girls	Male	Female
1.	S. K. L. K., M. F. Higher Secondary School, Nagaur	Govt.	Nagaur	1,227	59	40	—
2.	Govt. Johari M. P. H. S. S., Ladnun	"	Ladnun	610	14	25	—
3.	Mahavir M. P. H. S. S., Ladnun	Aided	Ladnun	387	1	18	—
4.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Chhoti Khatu	Govt.	"	330	2	21	—
5.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Degana	"	Degana	457	28	19	—
6.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Maroth	"	Nawa	314	32	18	—
7.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Kheenwsar	"	Nagaur	342	2	19	—
8.	Govt. Higher Secondary School, Mundwa	"	"	300	2	15	—
9.	J. B. Higher Secondary School, Ladnun	Aided	Ladnun	588	103	24	4
10.	Govt. Secondary School, Alay	Govt.	Nagaur	174	4	13	—
11.	Govt. Secondary School, Basni	"	"	133	1	13	—
12.	Govt. Secondary School, Kuchera	"	"	421	—	16	—
13.	Govt. Secondary School, Jayal	"	Jayal	261	4	13	—
14.	Bangur Secondary School, Didwana	"	Didwana	478	3	16	—
15.	Govt. Secondary School, Dhankoli	"	"	228	6	11	—
16.	Govt. Secondary School, Molasar	"	"	276	3	14	—
17.	Govt. Secondary School, Koliya	"	"	154	—	10	—
18.	Govt. Secondary School, Jaswantgarh	"	Ladnun	296	—	18	—
19.	Govt. Secondary School, Tosina	"	Didwana	231	4	13	—
20.	Govt. Secondary School, Nimbi Jodha	"	Ladnun	148	7	11	—

APPENDIX II (Concl'd.)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
21.	Govt. Secondary School, Mithri	Govt.	Ladnun	113	3	12	—
22.	Govt. Secondary School, Parvatsar	"	Parvatsar	580	39	23	—
23.	Govt. Secondary School, Jayal	"	Jayal	143	4	11	—
24.	Govt. Secondary School, Makrana	"	Parvatsar	574	11	24	—
25.	Govt. Secondary School, Sanju	"	Degana	182	3	10	—
26.	Govt. Secondary School, Kuchaman City	"	Nawa	394	—	20	only IX & X Classes
27.	Govt. Secondary School, Ghatwa	"	Nawa	153	—	11	—
28.	Govt. Secondary School, Nawa	"	Nawa	417	3	21	—
29.	Govt. Secondary School, Merta City	"	Merta	703	31	24	—
30.	Govt. Secondary School, Merta Road	"	Merta	362	59	12	1
31.	Govt. Secondary School, Ren	"	Merta	234	4	12	—
32.	Govt. Secondary School, Riyan Bari	"	Merta	195	7	10	1
33.	Govt. Secondary School, Thanwla	"	Degana	165	5	13	—
34.	Govt. Secondary School, Barayali	Aided	Merta	369	8	18	—

Source : Office of the Inspector of Schools, Nagaur.

APPENDIX III

Details of Girls' Middle and Primary Schools in Nagaur District
during 1969-70

Girls Middle Schools			Girls Primary Schools		
Location	Students	Teachers	Location	Students	Teachers
1. Merta City	474	13	1. Nagaur (Govt.)	248	9
2. Mundwa	312	12	2. Kuchaman (Govt.)	411	13
3. Kuchera	208	9	3. Ladnun (Govt.)	183	6
4. Lokia	131	8	4. Didwana (Govt.)	146	7
5. Jaswantgarh	306	13	5. Nawa (Govt.)	142	6
6. Chhoti Khatu	212	9	6. Parvatsar (Govt.)	176	6
7. Molasar	120	8	7. Rid (P. S. Parvat- sar) (Govt.)	33	1
8. Makrana	275	9	8. Banwal (P.S. Parvat- sar)	48	1
9. Ladnun (Aided)	292	8	9. Badoo „	15	1
	<u>2,330</u>	<u>89</u>	10. Bhakri Molas	47	2
			11. Peelwa „	33	1
			12. Pech „	19	1
			13. Badu (P.S. Makrana)	54	1
			14. Borawad „	173	3
			15. Riyan (P.S. Riyan)	95	3
			16. Basni (P.S. Nagaur)	33	1
			17. Alay „	55	3
			18. Sri Balaji „	136	4
			19. Nimbi (P.S. Ladnun)	27	1
			20. Mithri „	58	1
			21. Maroth (P.S. Kucha- man)	52	1
			22. Harsolao (P.S. Merta)	46	1
			23. Dangawas „	87	2
			24. Dhankoli (P. S. Didwana)	41	1
			25. Laderiya „	41	1
			26. Tarnau (P. S. Jayal)	43	1
			27. Bari Khatu „	75	2
			28. Rol „	63	1
			29. Deh „	39	1
				<u>2,524</u>	<u>79</u>

P. S.—Panchayat Samiti

Source : Dy. Inspectress of Girls' Schools, Jodhpur, Figures of students and teachers are provisional.

APPENDIX IV

Details of Scouts and Girl Guides in Nagaur district
during 1969-70

Particulars	Local associations							
	Nagaur	Mundwa	Merta City	Didwana	Makrana	Degana	Lad- nun	Kucha- man
I. SCHOOL	20	12	25	24	18	21	14	15
II. SCOUT SECTION								
1. Pack	18	10	21	23	18	16	12	10
2. Troop	11	10	19	19	20	27	11	8
3. Crew	1	—	—	2	—	—	—	2
4. Cub	432	240	504	528	360	336	288	240
5. Scout	352	320	608	544	256	480	320	256
6. Rover	16	—	—	36	—	—	—	123
7. Scouter	66	48	43	95	53	70	50	42
8. Commissio- ner	2	1	1	1	1	1	2	1
9. Other wor- kers	9	7	7	10	6	4	8	7
III. GIRL GUIDE SECTION								
1. Flock	3	3	2	1	2	—	5	—
2. Company	1	1	2	1	—	—	3	3
3. Team	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
4. Bulbul	72	72	48	24	48	—	120	72
5. Guide	32	32	64	32	—	—	—	96
6. Ranger	16	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
7. Guides	12	9	9	5	4	—	18	14
8. Commissio- ner	—	—	—	1	—	—	1	—

1. Source: Divisional Secretary, Rajasthan State Bharat Scouts and Guides, Divisional Office, Jodhpur.

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

EARLY HISTORY

The climate of Nagaur district is very hot in summer during the day, the nights being comparatively cooler, and pleasantly cool in winter at day time with nights often becoming bitterly cold. It is on the whole healthy in plains and malarial in low lying areas.

There is no authentic record about medical facilities available in the area in the early days. As in other areas, whatever existed by way of curative treatment in olden days, had its origin in superstition and belief in the efficacy of magic and charms except for the existence of a few *Vaidyas* and *Hakims*. The illiteracy and credulousness of the bulk of the population gave rise to certain bizarre methods of treatment such as *Jhad Phunk*, *mantras* and *jantras*. The *tantriks* or *ojhas* employed various charms, amulets and other superstitious devices to counteract the evil influence of human and supernatural agencies as all natural calamities including diseases were ascribed to the displeasure of various deities. When an epidemic broke out, the village deities like *Sheetlamata*, *Bhairuji*, etc. were worshipped, and animals often sacrificed to appease them. A witch doctor was very much popular among the people. The *Bhopa* when called upon to treat a case of illness not only gave medicine composed of indigenous herbs and plants etc. but also recited incantations and even performed animal sacrifices when the case was serious in nature. Many people used to go to temples to seek the blessings of deities for the cure of their disease. Temples of *Tejaji* and *Ramdeoiji* and *Mazahar* of Rolpeer Sahib were well known for the purpose where even now fairs are held and both Hindus and Muslims from various districts of the State and outside gather for worship. Religion was closely associated with the art of healing and priests (*Sadhus* and *Maulvis*) functioned as medicine-men. Epidemics like smallpox and measles were common which were known as *Barimata* and *Chhotimata*. No medicines were given during the period of illness and many people suffered deformities, like loss of eyesight.

Ayurveda was the accepted system of medical relief practised here as throughout the country in olden days. This system had its roots in the hoary past of the country. The indigenous *vaidyas* were popular among the masses and the medicines supplied were cheap and well within the means of everybody. Ordinarily herbs and plants, easily available locally,

were freely made use of. After the Muslims came to power in the country, the *Unani* system of medicine was introduced. The *Vaidyas* were mostly Hindu physicians who inherited their knowledge and skill from their forefathers. *Hakims* were mostly Muslim physicians who similarly inherited the healing art according to the *Unani* system from their ancestors. Surgery was mostly done by barbers (Hindu surgeons) and *Jurrahs* (Muslim surgeons). As observed by Erskine, "The surgeons of the olden days were chiefly of the barber class, though amputations were not infrequently performed by Rajput swordsmen who, if they were experts would cut through a limb with one stroke, the stump being then placed in boiling oil to prevent haemorrhage¹." *Singhri Lagana* was resorted to in case of swellings, snake-bite and infected wounds. The *Singhriwala* would use a sharp curved knife to make an incision above the affected part and placed a *singhri* which was either a cow's horn or a horn-shaped brass tube, over the wound and after sucking the blood through it applied powdered turmeric to the wound. It was believed that blood letting was good for health and even healthy children were put to *singhri* treatment, an incision being made on the chest for the purpose which was called *Kothakhulana*. The leech (*Jonk*) was used by some persons to extract guinea-worms and to suck bad blood out of the body. Obstetrics and women diseases were attended to by mid-wives popularly known as *dais*, who mostly belonged to the menial class. All these methods of treatment have even now not altogether disappeared from the district but there is no doubt that these are fast losing their popularity with the extension of medical facilities and only a very small section of the population, mostly in rural areas, resort to such methods of treatment now.

In 1881, there were only two hospitals in the area, located at Nagaur and Didwana, the latter being maintained by the Government of India for the benefit of those employed at salt works. The allopathic system of medicine was gradually getting popular, a fact which was indicated by the increasing number of patients treated and their daily average attendance. In 1906, there were four hospitals at Nagaur, Didwana, Merta and Nawa and a dispensary at Merta Road, maintained by the Durbar in the area of the present Nagaur district, besides another hospital at Didwana run by the Salt Revenue Department of the Government of India². There were 35 hospitals and dispensaries in Marwar at the end of 1935-36³. A Sub-Assistant Surgeon was attached to the Education Department primarily for

1. Erskine, K. D., *Rajputana Gazetteers*, vol. III-A, p. 172.

2. *ibid.*, Vol. III-B, pp. 57-58.

3. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, 1935-36, p. 33.

medical examination of students. All hospitals and dispensaries were generally inspected at least once a year by the Principal Medical Officer¹. Construction work for hospital at Ladnun was started during 1936-37 for which funds were donated by generous *Seths* of the area². A leprosy survey of the State was conducted in the year 1936-37 under the supervision of an expert, lent by British Empire Leprosy Relief Association³. It indicated that leprosy was far more common in Marwar than was generally expected. Department of Public Health was formed during the year 1936-37 which started propaganda to promote sanitation and give elementary information about public health with the help of cinema shows, magic lantern displays and lectures. Anti-malarial work and testing of food stuffs was also carried out⁴. Seth Ganpati Rai Saraogi Hospital at Ladnun on which work was started in 1936-37, opened for public in the year 1937-38 and the number of hospitals and dispensaries rose to 39 in Marwar⁵. For the first time, in 1937-38, an Aid Post was set up under the charge of a senior compounder. The Public Health Department also started collection of vital statistics through municipalities from 1937-38. Minor out-breaks of smallpox occurred at Merta and other places. Cholera was reported at Kuchaman City and Makrana in 1938. The infection was traced to United Provinces (now Uttar Pradesh) but due to the timely steps taken in 1937-38 by the Public Health Department the epidemic was nipped in the bud. 3,700 inoculations performed at Kuchaman City and 1,225 at Makrana checked the spread of this disease. Food Adulteration Act was drafted and submitted to the *Mahakma Khas* for consideration during 1937⁶. To create a spirit of competition and to encourage proper care of babies, prizes (soap and towels) were distributed in the villages during 1941-42. Four temporary travelling dispensaries were started during 1943-44. Great stress was laid through propaganda for better and healthier living in rural areas during 1943-44.

GENERAL STANDARD OF HEALTH

Vital Statistics

The work of collection and maintenance of vital statistics in Marwar commenced at Jodhpur as early as in January 1894⁷. The registration of deaths and births was made the responsibility of the municipalities in

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State, 1935-36*, p. 34.

2. *ibid.*, 1936-37, p. 41.

3. *ibid.*, p. 42.

4. *ibid.*, pp. 41-42.

5. *ibid.*, 1937-38, p. 29.

6. *ibid.*, p. 33.

7. *ibid.*, 1894-95, p. 59.

urban areas and of the village *chaudhry* or *patel* (headman) in rural areas. At present, the recording of the figures of death and birth in urban areas is being done by the municipalities of the district.

Causes of Mortality

According to the data released by the Directorate of Medical and Health Services the causes of recorded deaths from 1959 onwards in the district were as follows¹:

Year	Smallpox	Fever	Dysentery & Diarrhoea	Respiratory diseases	Injuries & suicides	Other causes	Total
1959	6	60	5	28	—	54	153
1960	69	204	36	50	8	220	587
1961	59	98	32	83	13	136	421
1962	23	95	26	116	28	116	404
1963	75	109	21	64	7	145	421
1964	—	144	55	53	7	120	379
1965	4	90	23	39	22	89	267
1966	3	77	11	29	5	106	231
1967	13	93	31	49	11	184	381
1968*	5	101	19	51	13	196	385
1969*	12	115	35	71	14	205	452

Longevity

According to the sample survey of 75,783 persons (39,552 males and 36,231 females) conducted by the Census Department during the 1951 Census, the maximum percentage of 44.90 of this sample population existed in the age-group of 15-44. 38.41 per cent was in the age-group of 0-14 years and only 16.69 per cent of the population survived after 45 years of age. Details of the survey are given in the following table²:

Age-group	(Number)		
	Males	Females	Total
0	1,160	1,088	2,248
1-4	4,098	4,190	8,288
5-14	9,603	8,971	18,574
15-24	6,588	6,656	13,244
25-34	5,882	5,799	11,681
35-44	4,887	4,211	9,098

1. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, yearly volumes.

*Figures Provisional.

2. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Nagaur, Part 1*, p. 64.

1	2	3	4
45-54	3,553	2,639	6,192
54-65	2,340	1,522	3,862
65-74	1,091	797	1,888
75 and over	350	325	675
Age not stated	-	33	33
Total	39,552	36,231	75,783

The population figures of the 1961 Census show that percentage of population in the age-group of below 14 years has increased as compared to 1951 and it has declined in case of age-group 15-44 and above 45. This indicates rapid growth of population in the age-group 0-14 and fall in the expectancy of life in the higher age-groups. The decline in the age-groups 15-44 and above 45 may be due to depressed economic conditions. Below is given age-group-wise population of the district during 1961:

Age-group	Males	Females	Total
0-4	73,631	71,485	1,45,116
5-9	72,253	64,928	1,37,181
10-14	63,724	52,806	1,16,530
15-19	39,091	35,758	74,849
20-24	37,760	43,220	80,980
25-29	39,069	38,127	77,196
30-34	33,092	31,857	64,949
35-44	48,152	46,249	94,401
45-59	48,202	41,555	89,757
60+	25,137	28,026	53,163
Age not stated	475	351	826
Total	4,80,586	4,54,362	9,34,948

Common Diseases

The table at Appendix I shows the number of patients treated at various hospitals and dispensaries of the district for common diseases during the last twenty years 1950-51 to 1969-70.

Epidemics

Smallpox, malaria, plague and cholera are the common epidemics of which people suffered most.

1. Census of India 1961, Rajasthan, District Census Handbook, Nagaur District p. 193.

Smallpox particularly affected children. Vaccination being the only preventive measure, is done by the trained vaccinators of the Medical and Health Department who are required to visit houses in their respective jurisdiction for the discharge of their duties. Systematic house to house inspection of the whole town or village is conducted for detection of unprotected cases.

The other epidemic which used to take heavy toll of life was malaria which spread commonly during autumn after rains, but it has now been effectively controlled. Plague visited the area for the first time in 1836 when it broke out at Pali and thence spread to other parts of the former Jodhpur State. It first affected *Chhipas* (cloth printers) which led to the supposition that germs were imported in silk from China. A few cases of plague were detected again in the area in 1896. The disease reappeared in 1903. With the object of keeping plague out of the State, special staff was maintained at all the important railway stations which was empowered to examine and if deemed necessary to keep under observation for ten days, any one who came from an infected area. Moreover in suspicious cases, it was the custom to vacate and disinfect, or even to burn down, the house concerned and remove the inmates to a segregation camp. The frequency and the severity of these epidemics have been reduced due to the preventive measures taken by the Medical and Health Department, which takes steps for preventing epidemics and nipping them in the bud.

National Malaria Control Programme was introduced in the district in the year 1959 in order to check the spread of malaria. Malaria Surveillance workers were deputed for spraying D.D.T., and for collecting blood smears of fever cases. They visit every house once in a fortnight and their work is supervised by the Surveillance Inspector. Hospitals, dispensaries and primary health centres are also utilised for the collection and examination of blood slides under Malaria Eradication Programme. The district has been divided into three sub-units viz. Nagaur, Parvatsar and Didwana for the purpose. During 1969, a total of 77,435 slides were examined and 82 positive cases detected.¹

Vaccination

Vaccination was first introduced in Marwar in 1866 when 3,933 persons were vaccinated². The Marwar Vaccination Act was passed and

1. Source: Offices of the Assistant, Director (Malaria), Health Services, Bikaner and Additional District Health Officer, Ratangarh.
2. Erskine, K.D., *Rajputana Gazetteers*, Vol. III-A, p. 174.

received the assent of the then ruler in 1926-27¹. Vaccination was carried out by the vaccinators deputed in tahsils and supervised by the Health and Food Inspectors. There was one vaccinator for about fifty thousand of population and he was provided with a camel and a peon. After the formation of Rajasthan and introduction of Panchayati Raj, all vaccinators were put under the charge of Panchayat Samitis and their work was to be supervised by the sanitary inspectors posted in the Panchayat Samitis. In 1963, posts of the sanitary inspectors were abolished in Panchayat Samitis and they were attached to the Primary Health Centres. At present, the vaccination work is carried out by vaccinators under the supervision of the District Medical and Health Officer, Nagaur. An extensive vaccination programme launched on 1st June 1963 under the National Smallpox Eradication Programme has controlled the disease considerably. The following table gives the number of vaccinations done during the last seven years².

(Number)			
Year	Total Smallpox cases	Primary Vaccinations	Re-vaccinations
1963	178	62,262	2,37,572
1964	124	80,036	3,55,870
1965	123	71,681	1,84,972
1966	13	46,346	61,338
1967	132	39,120	90,148
1968	50	62,387	1,09,809
1969	56	27,235	75,867

Infirmities

The following table shows the number of persons suffering from various infirmities at the time of 1951 Census³:

Age-group	Blind		Deaf-mute		Insane		Lener	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1-4	15	4	7	3	1	5	—	—
5-9	31	19	20	5	6	2	1	1
10-14	32	20	27	9	15	2	—	1
15-24	51	32	38	13	34	14	3	4
25-34	47	35	29	18	33	11	4	1
35-44	68	56	35	8	21	18	6	2

1. *Report on the Administration of the Marwar State, 1926-27*, p. 54.

2. Source : Office of the District Medical and Health Officer, Nagaur.

3. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Nagaur, Part-I*, pp. 87-89.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
45-54	106	108	31	14	28	9	4	1
55-64	263	260	13	20	8	11	4	2
65-74	204	168	3	8	10	1	3	1
75&above	110	106	5	4	—	—	—	—
Age not stated	5	14	—	—	—	—	1	—
Total	932	822	208	102	156	73	26	13

The total number of infirm persons in 1951 was 2,332 (1,322 males and 1,010 females). Blindness was the most common infirmity affecting nearly 75 per cent of total infirm persons in the district. The above table indicates a positive relationship between blindness and advancing age of both males and females. Deaf and mute persons comprised 13 per cent of infirm persons. Insane and leper persons were only 9 per cent and 3 per cent respectively of the total infirm population. Majority of the infirm population belonged to rural areas which may be due to lack of proper medical facilities existing there. The position of infirm persons in rural and urban areas is given below¹:

Infirmity	Rural	Urban	Total
Blind	1,571	183	1,754
Deaf-mute	272	38	310
Insane	195	34	229
Leper	35	4	39
Total	2,073	259	2,332

Thus 89 per cent of the total infirm population was found in rural areas while only 11 per cent were living in urban areas.

HOSPITALS AND DISPENSARIES

State Allopathic Medical Institutions

Organised medical and public health services in the district are of comparatively recent origin. During the year 1950 there were one hospital, eight dispensaries and seven aid posts². During the year 1959, the number of hospitals, dispensaries and aid posts was 8, 11 and 6 respectively³. By 1969 the number of state hospitals, primary health

1. *Census 1951, Rajasthan and Ajmer, District Census Handbook, Part I*, p. 87.

2. Source : Office of District Medical and Health Officer, Nagaur.

3. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan, 1960*, p. 206.

centres and dispensaries had reached 15, 11 and 7 respectively. The following is the description of the state hospitals :

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, NAGOUR—A hospital was started at Nagaur by the ruler of the former Jodhpur State in the last quarter of the nineteenth century. The present building originally was donated by Seth Ram Ballabh Ramdeo Pitha to which many changes were effected in later years. There are two male wards and two female wards having 32 and 18 beds respectively as on 31st March, 1970. A pathological laboratory, an X-ray plant and an anti-rabic centre are attached to the hospital which also provides the facility of a fully equipped operation theatre.

SETH GOVIND RAI SARAOGI HOSPITAL, LADNUN—This hospital was opened on 4th March, 1938 by the erstwhile ruler of Jodhpur State. The funds for the construction of the hospital building were donated by Seth Ganpatrai Saraogi of Ladnun. An X-ray plant, a pathological laboratory and an anti-rabic centre have also been added in the hospital. There were three male wards and three female wards having 32 and 18 beds respectively during 1969-70. Out of these 50 beds, 6 were for maternity, 4 for children, 18 male surgical and 6 female surgical, 10 male medical and 6 for female medical cases. Facility for the pathological testing of blood, urine, stool, etc. is available in this hospital.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, MERTA CITY—This hospital, which is located near the city market was established as a dispensary on 7th March, 1943. The present staff consists of a doctor, a mid-wife, two compounders and four class IV servants. Screening and X-ray facilities have since been provided in the hospital. An anti-rabic centre is also attached. There is a male and a female ward with a capacity of 8 and 4 beds respectively.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, KUCHAMAN CITY—Situated near the town, this hospital was opened on 5th April, 1953 in a rented building. The hospital has now its building donated by Seth Radha Krishna Sharda of Kuchaman City in 1958. The staff in the beginning consisted of a doctor, a compounder and a class IV servant. There is one male ward having 12 beds and one female ward having 8 beds. A small fully equipped operation theatre, an X-ray plant and an anti-rabic centre are attached to the hospital.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, NAWA—This was started in the early years of this century by the erstwhile State of Jodhpur. The present premises were occupied in the year 1954. There is one male ward having 6 beds and one female ward having 3 beds.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, MUNDWA—The hospital, situated near the Polerdi tank at Mundwa, was inaugurated on 25th July, 1951 in a rented building. It had at that time only one doctor, a compounder and two class IV servants. The new hospital building which was inaugurated on 31st October, 1965 was donated by Seth Gopilal Kabra of Mundwa. Maternity ward was added to the hospital on 13th August, 1968. An anti-rabic centre was provided on 13th October, 1966. There is a provision of 12 beds of which eight are for males and four for females.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, PARVATSAR—This hospital was opened in a State building on 4th August 1934. It is situated near the railway station, Parvatsar. Anti-rabic centre is functioning since September, 1967. There is one male ward having six beds and one female ward having 3 beds.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, MAKRAHA—This hospital was opened in 1955 in a State-owned building located near the Government school on the outskirts of Makrana. One ward, and one outdoor block have been added to the hospital premises and X-ray facilities have been made available with the help of donations from the public. There is an anti-rabic centre attached to the hospital.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, DIDWANA—This hospital was opened in the early years of the century. It was shifted in a new building located on the outskirts of the town during 1963. This building has been donated by a local phinanthropist. Facilities of X-ray and anti-rabic treatment are provided.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, KUCHERA—This hospital was established in the year 1942. The total number of beds is four, 2 for males and 2 for females.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, CHHOTI KHATU—This institution was started in the year 1958. It provides accommodation for 6 beds of which 4 are meant for males and 2 for females.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, MAROTH—This hospital was established in the year 1953, and has been categorised as a rural hospital. It is a four-bedded hospital serving the nearby population of 3,773 persons.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, HARSOR—This hospital is also serving the public of rural areas. It was established on 8th November, 1965. During 1969 there were 6 beds for indoor patients of which 4 beds were for males and 2 for females.

GOVERNMENT HOSPITAL, KATHOTI—It was established as a dispensary on 4th October, 1960. It has a bed strength of 4 two each

for males and females. Besides, Gotan Aid-Post with a provision of 2 beds has also been categorised by State Medical and Health Department as a hospital.

Primary Health Centres

There were 11 Primary Health Centres in the district on 31st March, 1970 for looking after curative as well preventive public health measures in their respective areas. They work in collaboration with the respective Panchayat Samitis though their administrative control rests with the District Medical and Health Officer, Nagaur. The main functions of the Primary Health Centres is to popularise family planning and to render medical facilities to the rural population in particular.

Details regarding the years of opening, number of beds, daily average attendance of outdoor and indoor patients, and patients treated at these primary health centres were as follows¹:

(Number)									
Primary Health Centre	Year of opening	Beds	Daily average attendance 1969-70		Patients treated in				
			Outdoor	Indoor	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
1. Basni	1957	9	18.2	0.31	7,032	6,102	6,538	6,637	7,766
2. Jaswantgarh	1958	8	39.3	0.93	7,405	7,585	7,738	7,831	8,483
3. Deh	1962	6	22.6	0.12	9,842	8,661	8,637	8,252	8,687
4. Badoo	1964	6	22.5	—	9,016	9,945	9,361	8,050	7,136
5. Kheenwsar	1965	6	33.5	—	7,083	7,282	7,383	7,432	16,948
6. Nokha									
Chandawat	1963	6	36.1	0.02	4,905	4,885	4,775	5,000	3,975
7. Riyan	1962	6	44.4	0.38	8,385	8,715	8,915	9,010	10,904
8. Degana	1963	6	74.0	11.66	9,810	10,491	11,878	11,965	13,580
9. Gachhipura	1960	6	28.2	2.54	8,738	7,363	7,952	7,387	8,143
10. Molasar	1952	6	38.8	17.3	9,389	9,425	9,589	9,624	9,659
11. Kukanwali	1956	9	54.2	—	18,315	12,315	13,875	13,815	12,648

Medical Personnel

The position of staff in the Government hospitals and Primary Health Centres is given at Appendix II.

SPECIAL UNITS

Maternity and Child Welfare Centres

There were five maternity and child welfare centres in the district

1. Source : Office of the District Medical and Health Officer, Nagaur.

on 31st March, 1970. These centres take care of the health of mothers, expectant mothers and children. Skim milk powder donated by the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund is distributed free through these centres to the poor expectant mothers and weak children. Inspite of the availability of maternity services, indigenous *dais* are still much in demand particularly in rural areas.

T.B. Clinic

The T.B. Clinic at Nagaur was established on 15th July, 1966. It has been functioning since then in a rented building situated outside New Gate, Nagaur. The average daily attendance of outdoor patients during 1969-70 was 25. The staff consists of two doctors, one X-Ray technician, one lab-technician, two T.B. health visitors, one N.M. team leader, six B.C.G. technicians, one compounder, two drivers, one upper division and one lower division clerks and four class IV employees. A pathological laboratory is also attached to the clinic, besides an X-Ray plant.

Family Planning

The family planning programme was introduced in the district in October 1959, when four family planning units, one each at the Government hospitals Nagaur, Ladnun, Didwana and Primary Health Centre, Molasar, were established. A social worker, besides the other staff was posted in each of the family planning units to propagate family planning and to advise the people in this respect. Family planning methods were also popularised through cinema shows and distribution of literature on the subject, and organisation of family planning camps. Progress of work done by these four units during the five years 1959 to 1963 was as follows¹:

Year	Persons advised	Operations performed		(Number)		
		Males	Females	Contraceptives distributed		
				Jelly cream	Foam tablets	Condoms
1959	302	4	—	—	—	—
1960	1,586	7	1	369	2,460	—
1961	1,205	24	1	283	1,042	130
1962	4,063	18	—	378	4,772	470
1963	6,718	36	—	213	5,163	1,995

Three family planning units one each at Jaswantgarh, Kukanwali and Gachhipura were opened on 19th June, 1963 and four more family planning units in 1966-67. During 1969-70, there were eleven rural family planning centres in the district located one each at Primary Health Centres

1. Source : Office of State Family Planning Officer, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Jaswantgarh, Molasar, Kukanwali, Gachhipura, Degana, Deh, Riyan, Nokha, Badoo, Basni and Kheenwsar. Besides, there were three urban Family Planning Centres located one each at Nagaur, Ladnun and Makrana; three Static Sterilisation Units were located one each at Nagaur, Ladnun and Didwana. In addition to them one Mobile Sterilisation Unit and one Mobile I.U.C.D. Unit were headquartered at Nagaur. Progress of family planning work done in the district during last five years ending 1969-70 was as follows¹:

Year	I.U.C.D. insertions	(Number)
		Sterilisation operations
1965-66	57	72
1966-67	462	194
1967-68	1,173	1,427
1968-69	354	1,306
1969-70	535	2,248

Sterilisation and I.U.C.D. insertion camps organised during the year 1967-68 numbered 248, during 1968-69, 255 and during 1969-70, 182. Family Planning Sub-centres are located at Ratau, Bharnawa, and Girdoda Meetha (Jaswantgarh), Dhankoli, Kaerap and Badawa (Molasar), Adaksar and Deoli (Kukanwali), Salwa, Harsor and Gunasli (Degana), Jasnagar and Bherunda (Riyan), Ren, Kurdayan and Mokala (Nokha Chandawat), Bhakri, Peeh and Bhadasiya (Badoo), Guda Bhagwandass, Sinod and Jhadisar (Basni), Sankhwas, Pachori and Asawari (Kheenwsar).

X-ray Facilities

X-ray facilities in the district are available (1969-70) in 6 hospitals of the district, their location, year of their starting and number of patients benefited during the last five years are given below²:

Location	Date of starting	No. of patients benefited				
		1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
1. Government Hospital, Nagaur	19.5.1965	98	107	131	112	107
2. Government Hospital, Kuchaman City	April 1964	27	30	35	40	65
3. Government Hospital, Didwana	23.18.1964	30	39	45	84	98

1. Source: Office of the State Family Planning Officer, Rajasthan, Jaipur.
2. Source: Office of the District Medical and Health Officer, Nagaur.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4. Government Hospital, Merta City	4.4.1966	12	15	19	21	28
5. Government Hospital, Makrana	10.4.1965	8	11	15	22	31
6. Government Hospital, Ladnun	2.7.1960	105	131	146	189	225

Pathological Laboratories

The facilities of pathological laboratory have been made available at Nagaur and Ladnun since 1965 and 1966 respectively. The total number of persons benefited during the last five years were as follows¹:

Year	Nagaur	Ladnun
1965	1,503	1,814
1966	1,674	1,931
1967	1,735	2,042
1968	1,836	2,284
1969	2,002	3,121

Anti-Rabic Centres

There were eleven State allopathic medical institutions where anti-rabic centres are functioning, details of which are given below²:

Location	Date of opening	No. of patients treated in				
		1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
1. Government Hospital, Nagaur	2.11.1960	245	223	226	314	431
2. S.G.R.S. Hospital, Ladnun	30.3.1961	147	148	189	205	231
3. Govt. Hospital, Kuchaman	21.3.1964	107	121	189	175	101
4. „ „ Merta City	6.11.1964	N.A.	N.A.	19	20	25
5. „ „ Makrana	22.5.1965	N.A.	158	131	135	140
6. „ „ Didwana	11.11.1965	89	79	75	95	102
7. „ „ Parvatsar	Sept. 1967	N.A.	N.A.	89	75	80
8. „ „ Mundwa	13.10.1966	—	N.A.	24	28	30
9. „ „ Chhoti Khatu	12.5.1966	—	N.A.	1	8	4
10. Primary Health Centre, Jaswantgarh	11.5.1964	N.A.	N.A.	11	31	42
11. Primary Health Centre, Basni	31.7.1964	N.A.	N.A.	—	8	3

1. Source: Office of the District Medical and Health Officer, Nagaur.

2. *ibid.* N.A.=Not available.

Dental Clinic

The dental clinic attached to the Government Hospital, Nagaur, with one dental surgeon, one compounder, one lower division clerk and one peon on its staff (during 1969-70) was started in the year 1960. The number of patients treated during the last five years are given below¹

Years	1965	1966	1967	1968	1969
Patients treated	3,145	3,674	3,155	3,070	3,700

Maternity Wards

Maternity wards existed in the following hospitals in the district on 31st March, 1970:

1. Government Hospital, Nagaur
2. S.G.R.S. Hospital, Ladnun
3. Government Hospital, Merta City
4. Government Hospital, Didwana
5. Government Hospital, Makrana

PRIVATE ALLOPATHIC HOSPITAL

There is only one private allopathic hospital in the district running at Ladnun, viz. Shri Sukhdeo Ladies Hospital. This hospital was started on 13th June, 1940. There was one ward for indcor patients having 15 beds during 1969-70. The staff of the hospital included one doctor, one compounder, two peons and one upper division clerk. The total number of patients treated during the years 1966 to 1969 were as follows²:

Year	Patients treated
1966	62,876
1967	58,023
1968	34,291
1969	41,662

OTHER HOSPITALS

There are two railway hospitals in the district located at Merta Road and Degana. Both these hospitals are under the administrative control of the Northern Railway and cater mainly to the needs of the railway employees.

The Railway Hospital, Merta Road was established by the

1. Source: Office of the District Medical and Health Officer, Nagaur.
2. Source: Office of the Medical Officer In-charge, Shri Sukhdeo Ladies Hospital, Ladnun.

Jodhpur-Railway administration during the princely state times. The Northern Railway took over charge of this hospital in 1952. There is one labour room and one emergency ward with two beds. The staff of the hospital included two doctors, two compounders, one mid-wife, one dresser and five hospital attendants during 1969-70. The average attendance of the outdoor patients was 250 during the year 1969-70. Common diseases for which patients are treated are influenza, gastro-enteritis, diarrhoea, boils, malnutrition, *bala* fever, trachoma, otitis media, dermatitis etc.

PRIVATE PRACTITIONERS

In addition to the departmental and private medical institutions, there were seven registered medical practitioners in the district during 1969-70 who treat the patients, either at their own residence or at their clinics in the market places of the towns. Out of them, three were practising at Ladnun, and one each at Kuchaman City, Mundwa, Didwana and Badoo.

CHEMISTS

There were 116 licenced chemists in the district, particulars of which are given in Appendix III.

INDIGENOUS SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

As mentioned earlier, Ayurvedic medicines made from the herbs were in the past and still continue to be very popular with the masses. Even after the expansion of allopathic system of medicine it is still widely believed, particularly in rural areas, that the indigenous system of medicine is better suited to our temper and climate with the additional advantage that it is cheap and the medicines are locally available. The former Jodhpur State extended its patronage to the system first of all in the year 1939 when in response to the recommendations of the Central Advisory Board, Jodhpur, and to meet public demand for the rehabilitation and encouragement of the Ayurvedic system, the Government appointed a committee to examine and suggest ways and means for development of the system¹. On 24th June 1940, grants-in-aid at Rs. 10 per month each to four *Vaidyas* in each of the districts with a population of over a lakh, to three *Vaidyas* in each of the districts with a population of over 50,000 but below one lakh and two *Vaidyas* in each of the districts with a population below 50,000 were sanctioned². All the subsidised *Vaidyas* were provided annually with free stock of medicines worth Rs. 100 each. An Ayurvedic Board of seven members composed of 5 *Vaidyas*, one official and one-

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, 1940-41, p. 40.

2. *ibid.*

non-official member was constituted¹. The Ayurvedic Department came into existence in 1940 and during 1941-42 the Government started appointment of *Vaidyas* in the regular State cadre instead of paying Rs. 10 per month to each *Vaidya* at 70 Ayurvedic Aid posts. 20 *Vaidyas* at Rs. 25 per month, 20 *Vaidyas* at Rs 20 per month were brought on the pay-roll of the government and remaining 37 continued as subsidy holders. Grant-in-aid for medicine was increased from Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 per month according to the requirements of each Aid post². The year 1942-43 opened with 48 Ayurvedic Aid posts and closed with 55³. All the 70 *Vaidyas* were taken into State service in 1942-43. Ayurvedic Aid posts were provided with a furniture and other equipment required for preparing medicines of every day use. One herb surveyor was appointed for taking up a survey of herbs growing in Marwar⁴. With a view to ensure purity, efficacy and reliability of ayurvedic medicines, the Government started a pharmacy on 11th December, 1946 for the preparation and supply of medicines to Aid posts⁵.

In Nagaur district area, there were five Ayurvedic *ausdhshalayas* located one each at Chhoti Khatu, Sankhawas, Riyanbadi, Riyal and Mundwa in the year 1941; their number rose to 13 in 1947 at the time of Independence⁶. These *ausdhshalayas* were under the administrative control of the Chairman, Indian Medicines Board, Jodhpur. Each *ausdhshalaya* was put under the charge of a *vaidya* who drew a fixed salary and got a grant for the medicines which were purchased from the State Pharmacy. On 1st August, 1951, one more *ausdhshalaya* was established at Borawad and the total number of *ausdhshalayas* became 14 in all. During the year 1955-56, there were 27 *ausdhshalayas* in the district, the number rose to 46 in 1960-61 and further went up to 59 in the year 1965-66; the last year of the Third Five Year Plan. There were 70 Ayurvedic *ausdhshalayas* in the district on 31st March, 1970. Year-wise growth of Ayurvedic *ausdhshalayas*⁷ and the staff⁸ posted therein in the district is given below:

Year	Ayurvedic <i>ausdhshalayas</i>	Staff posted	
		<i>Vaidya</i>	Up- <i>vaidya</i> and Compounders
1961-62	51	49	29

1. *Report on the Administration of the Jodhpur State*, 1940-41, p. 40.

2. *ibid.*, 1941-42, p. 43.

3. *ibid.*, 1942-43, p. 77.

4. *ibid.*, 1943-44, p. 83.

5. *ibid.*, 1945-46, p. 96.

6. Source: Office of the Ayurvedic Inspector, Nagaur.

7. *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, volumes for various years.

8. Source: The Office of the Director, Ayurved Department, Rajasthan, Ajmer.

1	2	3	4
1962-63	51	50	32
1963-64	56	55	33
1964-65	59	58	40
1965-66	59	59	41
1966-67	69	69	59
1967-68	69	69	50
1968-69	70	69	50
1969-70	70*	69	50

The office of the District Ayurvedic Inspector was established at Nagaur in the year 1960 for supervision of Ayurvedic institutions in Churu and Nagaur districts but since 1962 the Ayurvedic Inspector, Nagaur is looking after the work of only Nagaur district.

The number of patients treated in various Ayurvedic *ausdhhalayas* of the district are given below¹:

Year	Patients treated
1963-64	1,80,970
1964-65	2,10,765
1965-66	2,50,032
1966-67	6,75,000
1967-68	6,68,898
1968-69	7,47,775
1969-70	7,77,390

Expenditure on Ayurvedic institutions in the district has been as follows²:

Year	(Rupees) Total Expenditure
1963-64	1,76,120
1964-65	1,90,380
1965-66	2,47,280
1966-67	3,05,720
1967-68	4,34,010
1968-69	4,63,520
1969-70	5,41,290

1. Source: The Office of the District Ayurvedic Inspector, Nagaur.

2. *ibid*.

*includes one hospital.

SANITATION

The living conditions of the people throughout the district can by no means be called healthy. Poverty and to some extent their ignorance is responsible for their unhygienic habits. Most of them live in huts and kuchcha houses without windows or proper ventilation. Drains, latrines or urinals rarely exist in rural areas as people are not accustomed to using built-in latrines in villages. The fields surrounding the villages are used for answering the call of nature and it creates an unhealthy environment. The villagers often use polluted water from tanks for washing and other purposes and consequently suffer from various diseases.

In towns which are comparatively thickly populated, sanitary conditions are improving and recently the people have started realising the importance of sanitation.

The public health and sanitation in the district is supervised by the District Health Officer, Nagaur. Some of the health personnel are also posted in local bodies such as municipalities and Panchayat Samitis. The District Health Officer functions as an advisor to these institutions as they are directly responsible for the sanitation work in their respective areas. There are eight municipalities in Nagaur district located at Ladnun, Didwana, Nagaur, Kuchaman, Nawa, Makrana, Parvatsar and Merta. Special staff is employed by them under the control and supervision of the Sanitary Inspectors, to keep the municipal areas reasonably free from dirt and disease. Roads with pucca drains on either side are constructed to clear away the dirty water as also public latrines and urinals. Public hydrants are installed and water tanks constructed for drinking and washing purposes. All the municipalities of the district have hand *thelas* (wheelbarrows), and buffalo carts to remove refuse and night soil from the town. Three of them viz. Nagaur, Didwana and Merta have been given loans by the State Government for the purchase of tractor trollies for removing soil and sweeping from the towns.

As in the case of municipalities in urban areas, the village panchayats in rural areas are responsible for sanitation within their respective areas. In order to co-ordinate their work, sanitary inspectors are posted in Panchayat Samitis.

Drainage

The need for drainage system has hardly been felt in the district, as the rainfall is very scanty. There is also no underground drainage system at any place in the district.

Water Supply

A skeleton water supply scheme was operated by the Municipal Committee, Nagaur in 1943-44. Gangadevi Jalpraday Yojna was started at Didwana in 1954 with an estimated cost of Rs. 3.5 lakhs; it was financed by a philanthropist of Didwana. The Executive Engineer, Water Works, Jodhpur was in over-all charge and the immediate supervisory work was entrusted to an overseer posted at Didwana to ensure its proper execution. During the year 1959, a survey was undertaken by the Rural Water Supply Sub-division, Jodhpur at Nagaur, Merta City (urban) and Basni (rural). The office of the Executive Engineer, Water Works, Nagaur was established on 21st July, 1969 for the formulation, execution and maintenance of urban and rural water supply schemes in the district excluding Ladnun tahsil which was placed under Churu division. Due to rush of work on account of famine relief, another division was created and headquartered at Merta. Thus Nagaur district is being served by three divisions viz., Churu, Nagaur and Merta Divisions.

Underground water is the main source of water supply for drinking purposes. During the three Five Year and three Annual Plans a number of water supply schemes, both for urban and rural areas, have been executed in the district to provide piped water supply to the people of the district. The details of these schemes are as follows¹:

Urban/Rural	Town/Village	Cost (Rs. in lakhs)		Capacity in Gallons
		Estimated	Actual	
Urban	1. Nagaur	10.00	11.20	160,000
	2. Merta City	6.74	4.74	N. A.
	3. Ladnun	8.62	6.80	15,000
	4. Didwana	3.50	3.50	N. A.
	5. Kuchaman Road	7.28	5.98	N. A.
Rural	1. Jaswantgarh	4.96	3.88	100,000
	2. Nimod	1.08	1.16	25,000
	3. Pachori	0.69	0.78	10,000
	4. Balia	0.44	0.39	N. A.
	5. Dangabas	1.40	0.88	N. A.
	6. Shekhabasni	0.84	0.05	N. A.
	7. Molasar	0.60	0.55	N. A.
	8. Gotan	2.35	3.44	N. A.
	9. Khunkhuna	1.20	1.44	40,000

1. Source: Office of the Chief Engineer, Public Health Engineering Department, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

N.A.—Not Available.

1	2	3	4	5
	10. Chandarun	1.00	1.42	N. A.
	11. Jayal	1.48	1.51	60,000
	12. Nimbi Jodha	2.41	2.56	75,000
	13. Basni	5.94	5.89	N. A.
	14. Borawad	1.90	2.02	N. A.
	15. Deh	1.20	1.33	50,000
	16. Merta Road	1.95	2.05	N. A.
	17. Maroth	1.60	1.84	N. A.
	18. Sribalaji	1.00	1.04	40,000
	19. Kolia	1.42	1.62	30,000
	20. Tinwari	1.43	1.48	N. A.
	21. Ratau	1.60	0.55	30,000

APPENDIX I

Patients treated for common diseases in Nagaur District

(Number)

S. No.	Name of the disease	1950-51	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
1.	Tuberculosis	250	300	308	327	400	496	508	905	982	845
2.	Respiratory diseases	1501	1821	1925	2085	3045	9045	4594	3046	9845	8325
3.	Typhoid Fever	350	409	507	545	945	843	701	137	892	485
4.	Dysentery	1732	1835	1904	2104	18345	1745	3540	4845	5045	6035
5.	Tetanus	10	25	36	42	45	90	70	51	84	31
6.	Measles	320	480	391	900	735	635	941	535	648	393
7.	Guinea worm	2245	2309	2410	1205	1306	3574	1871	2312	3541	198
8.	Polio myelitis	845	936	735	645	555	301	946	753	935	538
9.	Anaemia	935	537	546	539	845	649	1012	1245	3042	3536
10.	Trachoma	535	639	537	546	649	946	347	1025	1245	2245
11.	Other Eye diseases	1845	1905	2278	1734	5471	4571	5485	5405	8311	10213
12.	Ear diseases	935	538	534	840	312	1531	937	754	937	835
13.	Heart disease	220	321	435	341	183	639	942	534	647	342
14.	Teeth and gum	3211	2279	1738	5371	5471	4871	451	3913	21315	23512
15.	Abdomen disorders	8321	7232	6321	7301	6351	5391	9235	8351	7351	8345
16.	Urinary disease	635	942	835	735	946	649	743	1531	1245	823
17.	Skin diseases	3821	4321	5431	4321	2123	8351	4235	9123	8915	7530
18.	Injury cut etc.	2205	2407	312	1925	1825	3112	4215	3915	4745	9042
19.	Hepatitis	320	431	535	935	847	1032	838	745	989	1132

APPENDIX I (Concl.)

S. No.	Name of the disease	(Number)									
		1960-61	1961-62	1962-63	1963-64	1964-65	1965-66	1966-67	1967-68	1968-69	1969-70
1	2	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
1.	Tuberculosis	1020	1223	1935	847	1825	2105	2160	2680	2920	3032
2.	Respiratory disease	7535	6395	13256	19325	18335	20345	26680	51320	75040	82431
3.	Typhoid Fever	905	1335	1835	988	1813	2248	2440	1300	2200	1501
4.	Dysentery	7040	7125	7526	19351	9358	12345	13620	18400	16600	15431
5.	Tetanus	25	45	89	17	35	98	20	60	85	90
6.	Measles	1300	1207	450	678	1878	3578	8400	1500	660	675
7.	Guinea worm	320	875	1735	9321	731	817	1000	2240	3260	2989
8.	Poliomyelitis	635	893	635	1831	2112	2045	36200	15320	6100	5970
9.	Anaemia	4045	5334	6345	12345	14345	12351	14880	13900	15309	13304
10.	Trachoma	2350	3581	5382	6345	9432	12321	39420	1380	1420	1221
11.	Eye disease	11235	12345	12345	22345	25391	28345	31000	21800	23920	21589
12.	Ear disease	536	575	1231	12321	907	2331	24080	21820	38180	21228
13.	Heart disease	1201	1834	1935	13225	12342	18345	520	2561	2180	5820
14.	Teeth and gum	54321	4323	3235	32451	53912	3045	6660	9760	10200	925
15.	Abdomen disorders	4531	9405	10121	12345	9142	30421	50800	40900	34280	25321
16.	Urinary disease	1235	1940	2245	2345	3221	4231	2000	1840	2420	2020
17.	Skin diseases	9602	11325	12315	14315	18312	22315	26140	6470	55100	5731
18.	Injury cut etc.	10215	12345	14325	19235	20451	25315	3250	3336	3740	2420
19.	Hepatitis	1242	1915	745	1231	2123	1402	1500	1580	1521	1831

Source : Office of the District Medical & Health Officer, Nagaur.

APPENDIX II

Staff posted in the Government Hospitals and Primary Health Centres in Nagaur District during 1969-70

S.No.	Location	Doctors	Compounders	Nurses	Midwife	Dai	Class IV servants
HOSPITALS							
1.	Nagaur	4	6	3	1	—	9
2.	Ladnun	3	8	2	1	—	13
3.	Merta City	1	2	—	1	—	3
4.	Nawa	1	2	—	—	1	3
5.	Mundwa	1	2	—	—	1	3
6.	Parvatsar	1	2	—	—	1	3
7.	Makrana	1	2	—	1	—	4
8.	Didwana	2	7	—	2	—	5
9.	Kuchaman City	2	3	—	1	—	5
10.	Chhoti Khatu	1	2	—	—	1	4
11.	Kathoti	1	2	—	1	—	2
12.	Maroth	1	1	—	—	—	2
13.	Kuchera	1	1	—	—	1	2
14.	Harsor	1	1	—	—	—	3
PRIMARY HEALTH CENTRES							
15.	Basni	2	4	2	8	—	9
16.	Jaswantgarh	1	3	1	4	—	7
17.	Deh	1	4	1	4	—	7
18.	Badoo	1	4	1	4	—	7
19.	Kheenwsar	1	2	1	4	—	7
20.	Nokha Chandawat	1	4	1	4	—	7
21.	Riyan	2	4	1	4	—	8
22.	Degana	1	4	1	4	—	7
23.	Gachhipura	1	4	1	4	—	8
24.	Molasar	1	4	1	4	—	7
25.	Kukanwali	1	4	1	4	—	7

APPENDIX III
Licensed Chemist and Druggist Shops in Nagaur District as on
31st December 1969

S No.	Place	Number of shops
1.	Nagaur	14
2.	Mundwa	2
3.	Kuchera	6
4.	Basni	4
5.	Merta City	6
6.	Merta Road	3
7.	Degana	5
8.	Gachhipura	3
9.	Makrana	7
10.	Kuchaman City	6
11.	Kukanwali	3
12.	Nawa	3
13.	Didwana	11
14.	Jaswantgarh	1
15.	Ladnun	12
16.	Molasar	1
17.	Chhoti Khatu	1
18.	Deh	2
19.	Borawad	1
20.	Ren	2
21.	Maroth	2
22.	Katholi	1
23.	Parvatsar	1
24.	Riyan	2
25.	Ghatwa	1
26.	Jayal	2
27.	Badi Khatu	2
28.	Badoo	4
29.	Padu Badi	1
30.	Bagot	1
31.	Harsor	1
32.	Gotan	1
33.	Rol	1
34.	Kheenwsar	1
35.	Mithari	1
36.	Shyamgarh	1
TOTAL		116

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

With a view to fulfilling the objectives of a welfare State, various ameliorative measures have been taken by the Government and voluntary agencies for the uplift of the workers and weaker sections of the society. They are described in the following pages.

LABOUR WELFARE

As already stated in the chapter on Industries, the district is not very important from the industrial point of view. It has, however, a few registered units, such as, cutting and dressing of stone, saw mills, printing presses, chemicals, asbestos products etc., which are located mostly at Makrana, Nagaur, Didwana, Merta City and Kuchaman Road. The total labour employed in the registered factories in the district is 860.

Prior to merger of the erstwhile State of Jodhpur little was done to improve the working conditions of labour. After the formation of Rajasthan various legislative measures were enacted to bring about uniformity in social legislation throughout the State. A list of Labour Laws (relating to various aspects of Labour Welfare) which are in force in Nagaur district is given at Appendix I.

ADMINISTRATIVE SET-UP—It was in 1965 that the State Government established for the first time a labour office headed by a Labour Inspector at Nagaur to look after the labour welfare activities of the district. This office functions under the immediate control of the Regional Assistant Labour Commissioner, Jodhpur. Prior to the establishment of office at Nagaur, the Labour Officer, Bikaner looked after the activities of Nagaur district too. The labour inspector is incharge of inspections under the Minimum Wages Act 1948, the Payment of wages Act 1936, and the Motor Transport Workers Act 1961. In case of non-compliance of provisions of these Acts, or in case of payment of wages less than the minimum wages, he puts up the claims and the prosecution cases in the courts and pleads them as well. Under the Industrial Disputes Act 1947, he acts as a conciliation officer.

LABOUR WELFARE CENTRES—The State Government opened a 'C' class labour welfare centre at Makrana near the railway station during the year 1957 under the charge of a games supervisor. It provides facilities for both indoor and outdoor games like carom, chess, *Chaupar*, chinese checker, foot ball and volley-ball etc. It also maintains a library and a

reading room where the daily average attendance in the year 1969 was 33. On an average 151 workers were daily participating in the same year in centre's various activities. The Games Supervisor is assisted by a waterman, a chowkidar and a class IV servant.

A brief account of various labour laws (relating to different aspects of labour welfare) enforced in Nagaur district is given below:

INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES ACT 1947—The Act provides for the settlement of labour disputes through conciliation, adjudication or arbitration. Since 1960, only three strikes have been reported resulting in a loss of 445 mandays. One strike involving 19 workers occurred in 1969 in the Rajasthan Worsteds Spinning Mills, Ladnun. The other two strikes occurred in Municipal Board, Nagaur in 1966 and 1968, each involving 65 workers. The table below gives particulars for the ten years ending 1969 of complaints which came up before Conciliation Officer:

(No. of complaints)

Year	Causes					Total
	Wages & bonus	Employment & retrenchment	Working conditions	Personnel	Others	
1960	—	—	—	2	—	2
1961	—	—	—	1	—	1
1962	1	—	—	1	—	2
1963	—	—	—	—	12	12
1964	—	—	—	—	7	7
1965	—	—	—	—	—	—
1966	15	2	5	—	—	22
1967	20	11	5	3	1	40
1968	22	6	4	3	—	35
1969	12	4	—	—	—	16

It will be observed from the above data that most of the complaints lodged related to wages, bonus, employment and retrenchment. The disposal of complaints during the same period was as under:

(No. of complaints)

Year	Pending at the beginning	Received	Total	Disposed of					Pending at the end of the year
				Favour	Against	Rejected	Filed	Total	
1960	—	2	2	2	—	—	—	2	—
1961	—	1	1	1	—	—	—	1	—
1962	—	2	2	2	—	—	—	2	—
1963	—	12	12	4	3	—	2	9	3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1964	3	7	10	5	-	-	5	10	-
1965	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1966	-	22	22	17	-	1	4	22	-
1967	-	40	40	28	7	4	1	40	-
1968	-	35	35	26	5	2	2	35	-
1969	-	16	16	10	3	1	2	16	-

MINIMUM WAGES ACT 1948—The Act is in force in Rajasthan since 15.10.1959. It requires the appropriate Government, Central or States, as the case may be, to fix minimum rates of wages payable to employees in scheduled employments. The minimum rates of wages fixed by the Government in the scheduled industries, have already been given in chapter IX. These have been fixed and revised in various scheduled employments from time to time.

The number of units inspected and prosecuted in connection with the enforcement of Minimum Wages Act¹ is given as follows:

Year	Industries	Establishments		Claims preferred
		Inspected	Prosecuted	
1960	14	25	-	-
1961	27	49	1	-
1962	32	56	3	-
1963	-	-	-	-
1964	-	-	-	-
1965	-	-	-	-
1966	46	83	7	236
1967	-	136	10	7
1968	-	234	14	3
1969	-	200	15	-

MOTOR TRANSPORT WORKERS ACT 1961—The Act is in force in Rajasthan since 27.6.1962. It is applicable to such motor establishments which employ 5 or more workers. It provides for the welfare of Motor Transport Workers and regulates conditions of their work. The Act prohibits the employment of children as Motor workers below the age of 15 years. It also regulates leave, hours of work etc. of the workers.

The following table gives number of establishments inspected and prosecuted under the Act during the last four years:

1. Source : Labour Commissioner, Rajasthan, Jaipur.

Year	Establishments	
	Inspected	Prosecuted
1966	17	—
1967	13	1
1968	13	3
1969	19	4

WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT, 1923—This Act is in force in Rajasthan since 1.2.1960. It imposes an obligation upon employers to pay compensation to workers for accidents, arising out of and in the course of employment resulting in death or total or partial disablement.

The following table gives the number of cases registered and decided from 1963 to 1968:

(No. of cases)					
Year	Pending in the beginning of the year	Received	Total	Disposed of	Balance
1963	—	2	2	—	2
1964	2	—	2	—	2
1965	2	1	3	2	1
1966	1	3	4	—	4
1967	4	4	8	5	3
1968	3	3	6	6	—

The total amount disbursed as compensation in all the above cases was Rs. 6,198.

TRADE UNIONS—There was hardly any freedom of association in the covenanting States and no trade unions could, therefore, be organised. After the formation of Rajasthan, the Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926 was made applicable throughout the State. It provides for the registration of trade unions, prescribes their rights and liabilities and gives them a legal status. These trade unions are Corporate bodies which safeguard the interests of their members and strive to promote cordial relations between the employer and the employee. At present eight trade unions have been organised in the district with a total membership of 1099. The details are given below:

Name of Trade Union	No. of workers	Affiliations
1. Gypsum Mine Workers Union, Bhadwasi (Nagaur)	300	All India Trade Union Congress

1	2	3
2. Nagaur District Metal, Iron & Steel Workers Union, Nagaur	100	All India Trade Union Congress
3. Rashtriya Jal Mazdoor Sangh, Nagaur	50	Indian National Trade Union Congress
4. Nagaur District Municipal Board Karamchhari Union, Nagaur	500	All India Trade Union Congress
5. Rashtriya Namak Karamchhari Union, Didwana	64	Indian National Trade Union Congress
6. Sodium Sulphate & Sulphide Takniki Karamchhari Sangh, Didwana	50	Indian National Trade Union Congress
7. Rashtriya Nal Karamchhari Union. Didwana	14	Indian National Trade Union Congress
8. Rashtriya Namak Upbhokta Shramik Sangh, Didwana	21	Indian National Trade Union Congress

INDIAN FACTORIES ACT, 1948—This Act is also applicable throughout Rajasthan and it regulates working conditions in factories and establishments by laying down minimum standards of health, safety and general welfare of workers such as rest, shelters, canteens, first-aid appliances and washing facilities etc. It also fixes hours of work in the factories. A list of factories registered under the Act in Nagaur district is given in Chapter V.

PROVIDENT FUND—The Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952 is applicable throughout the State. This Act is applicable to establishments employing 20 persons or more and covered 32 establishments in 1969-70.

PROHIBITION

The principal intoxicants used by the people in this district are *Bhang* and liquor and the sale of both is free though under some regulations. Opium is sold to the addicts only on permits issued by the Excise Department. Consumption of *Ganja* and *Charas* is prohibited in the district.

During the princely regime liquor was in general use among Rajputs and many of the well-to-do. As the traditional restrictions are getting

lax drinking habit is getting popular even among the educated upper classes. The consumption of various intoxicants in the district during the period 1960-70 is given below¹:

Year	Country spirit (Litres)	Opium (kg.)	Lanced poppy heads (kg.)	Bhang (kg.)	Indian made spirit (Litres)	Indian made beer (Litres)
1960-61	72,285	5	-	2,986	-	-
1961-62	66,335	6	-	2,844	-	-
1962-63	108,854	2	-	2,684	-	-
1963-64	109,924	5	35,573	2,901	-	-
1964-65	146,693	4	N. A.	2,250	-	-
1965-66	180,848	1	20,690	2,780	-	811
1966-67	165,314	+	23,121	1,745	474	497
1967-68	130,492	+	21,383	1,336	833	549
1968-69	143,993	0.22	24,130	1,241	778	526
1969-70	104,926	1	20,185	1,345	612	1,292

From the above table it is observed that the consumption of liquor has increased and that of *Bhang* and opium is declining. In the year 1969-70, the district had 61 shops selling country liquor, 27 shops selling *Bhang* and one shop of Indian made foreign liquor.

There is no distillery in the district. A good number of cases of illicit distillation are, however, detected and offenders prosecuted by the State's Excise Department. The following table gives the number of prosecutions and convictions for illicit distillation² during the last eight years ending with 1969-70:

Year	Prosecutions	Convictions
1962-63	184	116
1963-64	96	72
1964-65	63	37
1965-66	57	54
1966-67	487	29
1967-68	260	10
1968-69	290	10
1969-70	300	25

1. Source : *Statistical Abstract, Rajasthan*, 1961 and onwards.

2. Source: Office of the District Excise Officer, Bikaner.

+ = Negligible

N.A. = Not Available.

The foregoing table shows that the number of prosecutions are increasing while convictions are showing a declining trend.

The figures below give the excise revenue earned¹ in the last few years in the district :

Year	Revenue (Rs.)
1966-67	21,49,293
1967-68	21,51,183
1968-69	20,02,052
1969-70	13,80,696 :

ADVANCEMENT OF BACKWARD CLASSES

The term backward classes has been used to include Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Denotified Tribes and other backward classes. Nagaur has a significant population of Scheduled Castes numbering 1,63,169 in 1961 and constituting 17.4 per cent of the total population. The important Scheduled Castes found in the district are Balai, Bawaria, Bhangi, Chamar, Bhambi, Jatav, Jatia, Mochi, Raidass, Raigar or Ramdasia, Khatik, Megh or Meghwal, Thori or Nayak. The district is not a Scheduled Tribe area as the population is insignificant, only 2,879.

Prior to Independence these classes were subject to many social and economic disabilities, as in the rest of the country. But after the formation of Rajasthan the State Government have undertaken a series of ameliorative measures for the welfare of these classes. The social welfare department of the State has been entrusted with the task of bettering their all round conditions. A number of schemes for the uplift of Scheduled Castes are being implemented in the district.

Removal of Untouchability

Untouchability which puts a social ban on the Scheduled Castes to mingle freely and without fear with their fellow beings of other communities is one of the greatest social disabilities from which they suffered for long and, therefore, there was an urgent need to remove this evil. Efforts had been made in the past, both by the social reformers and the Government to do away with this evil practice but without much success. With the dawn of Independence, however, more concerted and effective measures have been taken to eradicate this social evil. Under Article 17 of the Constitution untouchability has been abolished and its practice in any form is forbidden. Accordingly, Rajasthan Government also brought into force. Untouchability (Offences) Act in 1955, making the practice of untouchability a cognisable offence, punishable with fine or sentence or both. Besides, a

1. Source : Office of the Assistant Excise Officer, Nagaur.

number of orders and instructions have also been issued by the State Government from time to time to remove the numerous hardships and disabilities from which the Scheduled Castes have been suffering. In the year 1969-70 a special programme known as the *Bhangi Kasta Mukti* programme was launched to do away with the practice of carrying night soil as head loads and for improving the working conditions of *Mehtars* and those engaged in such occupations. A sum of rupees one crore has been allocated for this programme during the year 1969-70 out of which Rs. 0.60 lakh were earmarked for the Nagaur district.

Education

HOSTELS—The low percentage of education amongst the backward classes, caused due to the centuries old socio-economic stagnation, calls for special endeavour in the field of educational development of these communities. Thus special hostels for backward class students up to higher secondary stage (as the general hostel facility is not provided by the Education Department) have been opened, and five per cent seats for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in general hostels run by the Colleges or Universities have been reserved.

The first hostel for Scheduled Castes was opened in 1962-63 by the Social Welfare Department in Nagaur with a capacity of 40 boarders. It is housed in a Government building. The annual expenditure of this hostel amounted to Rs. 31,646 in the year 1969-70. Another hostel for Scheduled Castes was opened by the Government at Degana in the year 1969, with a capacity of 25 students. It is run in a rented building. The annual expenditure of this hostel was Rs. 22,942 in 1969-70. A hostel for the children of Denotified Tribes was also opened by the Government in Ladnun in the year 1964, with a capacity of 40 students. This is also run in a rented building. Its annual expenditure was Rs. 38,284 in the year 1969-70.

Besides the three Government run hostels, six Government aided hostels run by voluntary social organisations are also catering to the needs of backward class students in the district. The Government meets 90 per cent of the total expenditure of these hostels in the form of grant-in-aid and the remaining 10 per cent is met out of funds raised by these associations. The oldest of these institutions is Rashtriya Harijan Kisan Chhatrawas at Didwana which was opened in the year 1956. It has a capacity of housing 40 candidates and an annual expenditure of Rs. 15,331 was incurred on its maintenance in the year 1969-70. Other hostels are: Shri Mahatma Gandhi Chhatrawas at Nagaur, Jayal and Parvatsar, opened in the years 1959, 1961 and 1962 respectively with an annual expenditure

of Rs. 16,840, Rs. 8,711 and Rs. 17,100 in the year 1969-70 and a total capacity of 35, 25 and 40 students respectively; Shri Rashtriya Chhatrawas Ladnun for denotified tribes, and Shri Rajasthani Chhatrawas Ladnun for Scheduled Castes, running since 1965 and 1967 respectively with a capacity of 40 and 25 students and annual expenditure of Rs. 16,470 and Rs. 10,700 respectively in the year 1969-70.

In all the Government and aided hostels, the students get free lodging, boarding, books, stationery, clothes etc. These hostels also maintain libraries and provide facilities for games.

SCHOLARSHIPS—Scholarships provide effective assistance in educating the poor and the backward. A number of scholarships are awarded by the State Government at various standards of education to the students of backward classes. Pre-matric scholarships are granted to students of sixth to eighth standard at the rate of Rs. five per month and to the students of ninth to eleventh standard at the rate of Rs. 20/- per student per month. Post-matric scholarships are provided to the students of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes who take up degree and post degree courses, and if they reside in general hostels attached to colleges or universities. Central Government also grants scholarships to students pursuing post-matric studies at the rate varying with the class in which a student is studying. The Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes students taking technical education in technical institutions are also eligible for merit-cum-need scholarships at the rate of Rs. 50 per month for the students taking degree courses, and at the rate of Rs. 30 per month for those seeking diploma courses.

RELAXATION AND EXEMPTION FROM PAYMENT OF FEES—At the College stage, in case of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes etc. the fees are not required to be paid in July but are deducted and deposited from the amount of scholarship payable to them in October. The payment of tuition fee is exempted at all stages of education in case of bonafide students of backward classes who are in indigent circumstances, and half of their other fees are also borne by the Government. Backward class students studying in Medical and Veterinary Colleges are also exempted from payment of tuition fee at all stages of education.

EMPLOYMENT—Special efforts are being made by the State Government to give employment to the Backward classes. The condition of registration in Employment Exchanges has been waived in their cases and all Government Departments, autonomous bodies and public enterprises have been empowered to employ them directly on their application. The quota for reservation of seats for these classes in the class IV and upper

cadres of Government and other services has been increased recently, since April 1970 from 15 per cent and 12½ per cent respectively, to 28 per cent in all cadres of services, out of which 17 per cent of the seats are earmarked for Scheduled Castes, and 11 per cent for Scheduled Tribes. Further, since 1970-71, to meet the problem of educated unemployment of these classes, all first and second class graduates and post-graduates, who are not able to secure employment, are provided with a monthly stipend of Rs. 100 for graduates and Rs. 150 for post-graduates, for a period of one year or the date of getting employment whichever is earlier. A special Employment Cell has been established from 1970-71 in the Social Welfare Department to facilitate the employment of backward classes.

The following table shows the employment opportunities provided to these classes of people during the last ten years ending with 1969 through the Employment Exchange, Nagaur:

Year	Registration	Placings
1960	99	20
1961	111	33
1962	188	67
1963	215	29
1964	129	22
1965	205	12
1966	222	41
1967	194	19
1968	262	24
1969	203	7

Housing

Under the rehabilitation programme, a subsidy of Rs. 90,000 was granted during the Second Five Year Plan for construction of 215 houses in 47 villages of Nagaur tahsil for *Gadia lohars* and a sum of Rs. 14,400 during the same period for *Gadia lohars* of Ladnun town and other backward classes of Nagaur town for construction of 31 houses. A further sum of Rs. 18,000 was granted for construction of houses of Scheduled Castes in Kuchera. In the Third Five Year Plan a subsidy of Rs. 1.89 lakh was granted for construction of 252 houses of Scheduled Castes (scavengers) in Kuchaman, Didwana, Parvatsar, Merta, Ladnun and Nagaur towns. In the year 1969-70 a subsidy of Rs. 38,000 was granted for construction of 38 houses of scavengers in the six towns of Nagaur district.

Welfare Extension Project

A Welfare Extension Project, opened in 1960 is being run at

Degana by the Rajasthan State Social Welfare Advisory Board. It has six sub-centres located at (i) Chandarun, (ii) Sanju, (iii) Palri Kalan, (iv) Idwa, (v) Harsor and (vi) Degana. The annual expenditure of the project is about 40 to 50 thousand rupees shareable in the ratio of 3:1 between the Central Social Welfare Board and the State Government. The average yearly beneficiaries through its various activities are: social education 343, craft 359, *Balahar* 182, *Balwadi* 617, games for children 632, delivery cases 33, field counselling 94, distribution of medicine 815 and cultural activities 367.

CHARITABLE ENDOWMENTS

Before the formation of Rajasthan, the work of the charitable endowments in Nagaur district was looked after by an officer known as the Superintendent Religious and Charitable Endowments, Jodhpur. After the integration of the States, the Devasthan Department of Rajasthan was constituted to look after the temples and attached property through its District or Divisional agencies. Presently the Deputy Collector, Nagaur has been delegated with the powers of Assistant Commissioner Devasthan. There are 58 temples in Nagaur district receiving grants from the Devasthan Department ranging from rupee one to rupees 15 per month. In Nagaur tahsil, there are nine aided temples whose total monthly grant is Rs. 72, in Degana tahsil the grant is Rs. 10 per month for two temples, in Didwana tahsil it is rupees six per month for two temples, in Merta tahsil rupees eleven per month for four temples, in Nawa tahsil Rs. 44 for 35 temples, and in Parvatsar tahsil rupees 15 per month for six temples. Besides, the following public trusts have been Registered in Nagaur district in the name of the Devasthan Department: (i) Shri Banshiwala Mandir, Nagaur Bazar, (ii) Shri Satya Narain Dharmada Fund, village Dhankoli, Didwana tahsil, (iii) Shri Venkatesh Dharmada Fund, village Dhankoli, (iv) Shri Satya Narain Trust, Molasar, (v) Shri Somani Trust Society, tahsil Didwana, (vi) Shri Kanheshwar Bhawan Trust, Kuchaman City, (vii) Shri Kuchaman Goshala Trust, Kuchaman City and (viii) Shri Digambar Jain Ajmeri, Kuchaman City.

The Devasthan Department is also disbursing a sum of Rs. 6,156 per year to 73 poor people and orphans in Nagaur district.

Under the Rajasthan Old Age Pension Rules, 1964, destitute persons of 65 years of age or over, who are bonafide residents of the State of Rajasthan and who have been permanently residing in Rajasthan for more than three years on the date of application for pension, are entitled to old age pension. The monthly rate of payment is Rs. 20 but where there are more than one destitute person in a family, the amount of pension

payable to them jointly is limited to Rs. 30 per month. The Collector is the authority competent to sanction the pension. The number of persons granted such pensions and the yearly amount spent since the inception of the scheme in Nagaur district are given below:

Year	No. of persons	Amount of pension (Rs.)
1965-66	57	25,964
1966-67	61	39,744
1967-68	29	34,429
1968-69	18	25,964
1969-70	19	34,778

The Rajasthan Board of Muslim Wakfs, Jaipur created under the Central Wakf Act 1954, supervises the functions of the *Mutawallis* of *Awakfs* located in Rajasthan. The *Awakfs* are managed by the *Mutawallis*. They are almost hereditary and they can be changed if their work is not found satisfactory. There is no organisational set-up of the board at the district level. The list of wakf property in Nagaur district has been notified in the Rajasthan Gazette dated 28-4-1966.

There are 380 mosques, 117 Dargahs, 206 grave yards, 14 madar-sas or Maktabas and 260 miscellaneous properties in Nagaur district. The total value of all Wakf properties in Nagaur district is Rs. 81.73 lakhs¹. No *sarai* or Musafir Khana, is run by the Board of Muslim Wakfs in the district. The Board also does not run any orphanage.

1. Source : Office of the Secretary, Rajasthan Board of Muslim Wakfs, Jaipur.

APPENDIX I

A list of Labour Laws in force in Nagaur district

A. CENTRAL ACTS

1. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947
2. Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926
3. Minimum Wages Act, 1948
4. Indian Factories Act, 1948
5. Indian Boilers Act, 1923
6. Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923
7. Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946
8. Payment of Wages Act, 1936
9. Working Journalists (Conditions of Services and Misc. Provisions) Act, 1955
10. Employment of Children Act, 1936
11. Employees' Provident Fund Act, 1952
12. Employers Liability Act, 1938
13. Children (Pledging of Labour) Act, 1933
14. Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961
15. Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948
16. Payment of Bonus Act, 1965
17. Maternity Benefit Act, 1961

B. RAJASTHAN STATE ACTS.

1. Industrial Disputes (Rajasthan Amendment) Act, 1958
2. Rajasthan Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958
3. Rajasthan Maternity Benefit Act, 1953

C. RAJASTHAN STATE RULES

1. Rajasthan Factories Rules, 1951
2. Rajasthan Workmen's Compensation (Unclaimed Deposits) Rules, 1959
3. Rajasthan Minimum Wages Rules, 1959
4. Rajasthan Boilers Rules, 1951
5. Rajasthan Industrial Disputes Rules, 1958
6. Rajasthan Payment of Wages Rules, 1951
7. Rajasthan Shops and Commercial Establishment Rules, 1958
8. Rajasthan Trade Union Regulations, 1959
9. Rajasthan Employees Insurance Court Rules, 1955
10. Rajasthan Maternity Benefit Rules, 1955
11. Rajasthan Economiser Rules, 1954
12. Rajasthan Motor Transport Workers Rules, 1962
13. Rajasthan Silicosis Rules, 1955
14. The Welfare Officers (Recruitment and conditions of services) Rules, 1952
15. Rajasthan Boilers Attendance Rules, 1951
16. Rajasthan Workmen's Compensation (Cost and Fee) Rules, 1955

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

REPRESENTATION IN THE STATE AND UNION LEGISLATURES

State Legislative Assembly (*Vidhan Sabha*)

During the first general elections (1952), the district was divided into eight single-member Assembly constituencies¹, namely, Nagaur East, Nagaur West, Merta West, Merta East, Nawa, Parvatsar, Didwana and Didwana-Parvatsar. From these eight constituencies thirty-four candidates contested the elections of whom eight belonged to the Congress², seven to Ram Rajya Parishad, two to Krishikar Lok Party, three to Kisan Janta Samyukta Party, three to Jan Sangh³ and the remaining eleven were Independents. Four seats were captured by Ram Rajya Parishad and four by the Congress.

The total number of electorate was 3,92,117 and the number of valid votes polled 2,14,162 i.e. 54.6 per cent.

The break-up of the total number of voters and the votes polled, constituency-wise is given below:⁴

Name of constituency	Electorate	Number of valid votes polled	Percentage of voting	Number of contesting candidates
Nagaur East	59,414	28,010	47.1	6

1. The area comprised by each constituency was as follows: Nagaur East—Nagaur, Mundwa and Khatu Kalan Police stations of Nagaur tahsil; Nagaur West—Nagaur tahsil excluding the Nagaur, Mundwa and Khatu Kalan police stations; Merta West—Merta tahsil (excluding the area covered by Padu and Thanwala police stations and 38 villages of the Degana police station); Merta East—the area excluded from the Merta tahsil in order to form the Merta West constituency mentioned above, formed the extent of the Merta East-constituency; Nawa-enfire Nawa tahsil; Parvatsar—Peelwa police station, 29 villages of Parvatsar police station and 32 villages of Gachhipura police station; Didwana—area covered by Ladnun and Bardawa police stations of Didwana tahsil; Didwana-Parvatsar—Didwana tahsil (excluding the areas covered by Didwana constituency) and Parvatsar tahsil (excluding the areas covered by Parvatsar constituencies). Source: *The Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies (Rajasthan) Order 1951*, pp. 19-20.

2. Indian National Congress.

3. Bhartiya Jan Sangh.

4. *Report on the First General Elections in India 1951-52*, Vol. II, Election Commission, India, p. 660.

1	2	3	4	5
Nagaur West	46,263	22,347	48.2	2
Merta West	44,849	25,137	56.0	3
Merta East	46,318	26,274	56.7	2
Nawa	51,652	30,404	58.8	3
Parvatsar	39,545	22,941	58.0	2
Didwana	43,746	23,818	54.4	8
Didwana-Parvatsar	60,330	35,231	58.3	8

At the time of the second general elections in 1957 the Assembly constituencies were re-organised and their number reduced from eight to seven, although the number of seats remained the same, i.e. eight, because Nawa became a double-member constituency, one general and the other reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes. These seven constituencies¹ were: Nagaur, Jayal, Ladnun, Didwana, Nawa, Degana and Merta. Thirty candidates contested these seats, of whom fifteen were Independents, while the remaining, eight were sponsored by the Congress party, four by Ram Rajya Parishad, two by Jan Sangh and one by Praja Socialist Party. The total number of electorate was 5,47,876 and the valid votes polled numbered 2,60,779 or 40.7 per cent. The following table gives the break-up of the total number of voters, valid votes polled and the number of candidates contesting, constituency-wise.

Name of constituency	Electorate	Number of valid votes polled	Percentage of voting	No. of contesting candidates
Nagaur	59,343	26,799	45.2	3
Jayal	58,411	25,901	44.4	4
Ladnun	55,972	30,434	54.4	3
Didwana	63,831	35,480	55.6	7
Nawa	107,533	85,598	46.3	7
	(2,15,066 votes)			
Degana	39,790	29,722	59.6	2
Merta	55,463	26,845	48.4	4

1. The area comprised by these constituencies was as follows: Nagaur-Nagaur tahsil (excluding 51 villages); Jayal-Jayal tahsil and 51 villages of Nagaur tahsil; Ladnun-Ladnun tahsil and 46 villages of Didwana tahsil; Didwana-Didwana tahsil (excluding 46 villages) and Gachhipura police station of Parvatsar tahsil; Nawa-Nawa tahsil and the areas covered by the Parvatsar and Peelwa police stations; Merta-Merta tahsil. Source: *Delineation of Constituencies for General Elections (1957)*, published by Election Department, Government of Rajasthan, p. 24.

The third general elections were held in 1962 and this time, the system of having a double-member constituency was abolished. The district was represented through eight constituencies¹, viz., Nagaur, Jayal, Ladnun, Didwana, Nawa, Parvatsar, Degana and Merta. Of these, Parvatsar constituency was reserved for the members of the Scheduled Castes and five candidates contested this seat. For the remaining seven constituencies, thirty candidates were in the field. Taking party-wise count, there were in all eight persons from the Congress, three from the Jan Sangh, five from the Swatantra, two from the Ram Rajya Parishad and the rest (17) were Independents. The Congress captured six seats while the Swatantra party bagged one and the remaining one went to an Independent candidate. The total number of electors was 537,164 but the number of valid votes polled was 2,76,086 or 51.4 per cent. The following table gives the constituency-wise details of the votes, number of contesting candidates, votes polled and the percentage of votes polled to the total number of voters:

Name of constituency	No. of electors	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of voting	No. of contesting candidates
Nagaur	71,682	28,538	43.12	6
Jayal	64,730	31,198	51.56	5
Ladnun	69,010	36,155	54.60	5
Didwana	71,829	43,719	63.32	3
Nawa	69,905	40,960	61.95	5
Parvatsar	64,208	28,982	47.46	2
Degana	57,488	29,317	54.72	5
Merta	68,312	37,217	57.65	4

In the last general elections (1967), the assembly constituencies were re-grouped in terms of revenue units i.e. tahsils, revenue circles and patwar circles and their number increased to nine². One of these, i.e. Parvatsar,

1. The extent of these constituencies was as follows: Nagaur-Nagaur tahsil excluding 52 villages; Jayal-Jayal tahsil and 52 villages of Nagaur tahsil; Ladnun-Ladnun tahsil and 59 villages of Didwana tahsil; Didwana-Didwana tahsil, excluding 59 villages but including the police station of Gachhipura of Parvatsar tahsil; Nawa-Nawa tahsil; Parvatsar-Parvatsar and Peelwa police stations; Degana-Degana tahsil; Merta-Merta tahsil.
2. The area comprised by these constituencies was as under: Nagaur-Nagaur tahsil excluding Mundwa and Sankhwas revenue circle; Jayal-Jayal tahsil and Mundwa and Sankhwas revenue circles of the Nagaur tahsil; Ladnun-Ladnun tahsil and seven of the Patwar circles of Didwana tahsil; Didwana-Didwana tahsil excluding seven Patwar circles; Nawa-Nawa tahsil excluding four Patwar circles of Kuchaman revenue circle and three Patwar circles of Nawa revenue circles; Makrana.

was again reserved for the members of Scheduled Castes. For these nine seats, 33 candidates were in the field, of whom nine belonged to the Congress party, seven to Swatantra, two to Jan Sangh, two to Communist party and the remaining 13 candidates were Independent. The total electorate was 6,36,482 out of which 4,08,196 or 64.13 per cent exercised their right of voting but the number of valid votes was only 3,90,491. Of these nine seats, 5 were captured by Swatantra party, 3 by Congress and one by an Independent candidate¹. The constituency-wise details of the number of voters, valid votes polled, number of contesting candidates and the percentage of voting are tabulated below:

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of voting	No of contesting candidates
Nagaur	78,242	41,885	85.79	4
Jayal	89,325	54,027	63.67	5
Ladnun	62,793	39,406	64.61	2
Didwana	66,461	43,017	67.15	4
Nawa	62,711	41,912	68.97	3
Makrana	63,310	40,227	65.92	5
Parvatsar	65,278	38,909	61.46	4
Degana	72,884	45,481	66.34	4
Merta	75,478	45,627	65.01	2

By-Election

By-election to the Assembly from Nagaur East and Parvatsar constituencies were held in 1953 as the earlier elections were declared void.

NAGOUR EAST CONSTITUENCY—The by-election was held on 11.10.1953. Three candidates, one from Congress party, another from Ram Rajya Parishad and the third an Independent, contested the seat. The total electorate was 63,015, while number of valid votes polled was 28,613 (45.4 per cent). The seat was won by the Congress party, the votes secured by the candidate being 16,582.

PARVATSAR CONSTITUENCY—Two candidates, one from Congress party and the other from Ram Rajya Parishad contested the seat, which was won by the former securing 10,572 votes out of 20,159 valid votes. The total electorate was 39,777 and the election was held on 15.11.1953.

Union Legislature (*Lok Sabha*)

In 1952, the district was represented in the *Lok Sabha* through two constituencies, namely Nagaur-Pali and Bikaner-Churu.

1. Report on the Fourth General Elections in India, Election Commission, India, pp. 473-474.

NAGAU-R-PALI CONSTITUENCY—The constituency included the Pali district (excluding Pali, Bali, Desuri and Sojat tahsils but including Bagri, Kharchi and Sojat police stations of the Sojat tahsil) and the Nagaur district excluding Nagaur tahsil, Ladnun and Bardawa police stations of Didwana tahsil and the Peelwa police station and certain villages of Parvatsar and Gachhipura police stations, but including the Nagaur, Mundwa and Khatu Kalan police stations of Nagaur tahsil). It was a general seat and four candidates, three Independents and one from the Congress party, contested it. There were 3,83,209 electors but number of valid votes polled was only 2,00,411 or 51.9 per cent of the total electorate. The seat was won by the Independent candidate who secured 94,105 votes which formed 47.0 per cent of the valid votes polled in the election.

BIKANER-CHURU CONSTITUENCY—It comprised Churu district (excluding the Churu, Rajgarh and Taranagar tahsil), Bikaner district, the Nagaur tahsil (excluding Nagaur, Mundwa and Khatu Kalan police stations) and the Ladnun and Bardawa police stations of the Didwana tahsil of Nagaur district. In a total electorate of 3,97,481, valid votes cast were 187,557 the polling percentage being 48.67. Of the four contestants, an Independent won the seat securing 62.9 per cent (1,17,926) votes. Of the remaining, one was a Congress candidate who secured 54,227 votes, the other a Socialist securing 9,014 votes and the third belonged to Kisan Janta Samyukta Party, securing 6,390 votes.¹

During the second general elections to the *Lok Sabha* (1957) the district was represented through Nagaur constituency which comprised Nagaur district (excluding Merta tahsil) and Sujangarh tahsil of Churu district (excluding certain villages). Merta tahsil of Nagaur district was, however, linked with the Jodhpur constituency. The Nagaur constituency, had one seat which was unreserved. Two candidates, one Independent and the other belonging to the Congress party contested the election. The number of electors was 4,45,844 and the valid votes polled counted 2,19,883 or 49.3 per cent. The seat was won by the Congress securing 1,42,458 or 64.8 per cent votes.

As in the second general elections the district was again represented during the Third General Elections (1962), through Nagaur Parliamentary Constituency the extent of which in terms of assembly constituencies was as follows : Nagaur, Jayal, Ladnun, Didwana, Nawa, Parvatsar, Degana and Sujangarh (of Churu district). The Merta assembly constituency was again, as in the last elections, linked with the Jodhpur parliamentary constituency. The Nagaur Parliamentary constituency had an

1. *Report on the First General Elections in India, 1951-52, Vol.II (Statistical)*, pp. 112-113.

electorate of 5,30,673 persons, of whom 2,86,508 or 53.99 per cent voted while the number of valid votes polled was 2,74,683. The seat was captured by the candidates of the Congress party who secured 1,30,166 votes. The remaining three candidates, who were all Independents, got 99,282; 24,945 and 20,290 votes respectively.

In the fourth General Elections (1967) the district again sent its representative to the *Lok Sabha* through the Nagaur constituency. Five candidates—two Independents, one from Congress party, another from Swatantra and the third from communist party, contested this election. The number of electors was 5,73,723 but only 63.58 per cent or 3,64,764 of them voted. Of these 3,51,074 votes were valid. The Candidates from the Swatantra party bagged 1,67,326 or 47.66 per cent votes and was declared successful.

In March, 1971 general elections were held for the *Lok Sabha* from the Nagaur Parliamentary Constituency, seven candidates contested the seat, of whom one was from the Congress (J) party, one from Swatantra and the rest were Independents. The electorate was 6,22,941 though the number of votes polled was 4,17,256 of which 66.98 per cent (4,04,927) were valid. The seat was won by the Congress (J) candidate who secured 2,44,913 votes.

By-Election

By-election to the parliamentary seat from the Nagaur constituency was held on 11th and 13th December 1960 to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of the candidate. Four candidates¹ one belonging to the Ram Rajya Parishad, another to Congress and the remaining two who were independents contested the seat. The total electorate was 5,21,098 and the number of valid votes polled, 1,22,824. The winning candidate who belonged to Congress party secured 80,554 votes.

POLITICAL PARTIES AND ORGANISATIONS

Local and All-India

There are no political organisations or parties purely of local character. Ramifications of the provincial units of the all India political organisations, however, have spread their net-work in this district too.

INDIAN NATIONAL CONGRESS PARTY²—Before the formation of Rajasthan, two political organisations, the Lok Parishad and the Marwar Kisan Sabha used to function in the former Jodhpur State of which the present district was a part. After the formation of Rajasthan, the Lok

1. *Results of By-Elections held between June 1960 & July 1961*, Election Commission India, p. 3.

2. Source: Office of the Secretary, District Pradesh Congress Party, Nagaur.

Parishad merged into the Indian National Congress Party and the Kisan Sabha tagged itself to the Rajasthan Kisan Sabha.

The District Congress Committee, headquartered at Nagaur town, is the chief organ in the district of the Rajasthan Pradesh Congress Committee (Jaipur) and is entrusted with carrying out the party programmes. The lowest unit of the party in the district works at the gram panchayat level where all the ordinary members of the party constitute the body known as the gram panchayat congress committee. From every gram panchayat congress committee, one representative who is an active member of the party, is sent to the Block Congress Committee as well as Nagar Congress Committee in the municipal towns. There are eleven Block Congress Committees in the district which are located at the headquarters of each Panchayat Samiti. Each Block Committee sends two representatives, one to the District Committee and other to the Pradesh Committee. The District Committee is composed of the representatives from the Block Committees, the Presidents of the Block Committees, the leader of the Congress party in the Panchayat Samiti, Pramukh of the Zila Parishad (if he belongs to the Congress party) and all the Congress M.L.As and M.Ps. of the district.

There are two types of members of the party, ordinary and active, and the terms of both extend to two years; the former has to pay a fee of one rupee per annum and the latter, twenty five rupees yearly, or in lieu thereof, he has to get 25 ordinary members enrolled. In 1968-69, the party claimed 283 active and 14,200 ordinary members on its rolls.

The party has contested all the general elections for Vidhan Sabha and Lok Sabha held so far in the district.

COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA¹—The district council of this party in Nagaur was set up only in November 1962 with five persons as its members. It has branches at four places namely Nagaur, Makrana, Jayal and Mundwa and they are known as Tahsil Councils, and the party now (May 1970) claims 46 members only. Any one who has attained 18 years of age and has political understanding can become a member of the party. The initial enrolment known as candidate membership is given for six months only and if the person is adjudged suitable, full membership is granted to him. The party claims to have led 63 demonstrations so far (May 1970) for various causes such as: protesting against the increase in land revenue, pressing for the nationalisation of remaining banks and general insurance, and for ending the national emergency etc. In the fourth general elections, it contested a few Vidhan Sabha and Lok Sabha seats from

1. Source: Office of the Secretary, Communist Party, Nagaur.

the district. The office bearers of the District Council consist of a Secretary, and members of the Executive Committee.

BHARTIYA JAN SANGH¹—This party also has a well-knit organisation in the district. The lowest units, known as local samitis, are formed at the panchayat level and on the basis of these units, the Mandal Centres are organised at the Development Block level. For urban areas, with a population exceeding twenty thousand, separate Mandal Centres are set up. At the district level, a District Samiti, constituted on the basis of Mandal Centres, co-ordinates various activities of the party in the district. Any Indian citizen who has attained the age of 18 years and has faith in the policies of the party can enrol himself as a member after paying a membership fee of 25 paise. This party contested the Vidhan Sabha seats during the last four general elections.

OTHERS—Ram Rajya Parishad, Krishikar Lok Party and Kisan Janta Samyukta Party sometime ago were among the active parties in the district and contested a number of seats for Vidhan Sabha during the first general elections. The Kisan Janta Samyukta Party sponsored its candidate for the Lok Sabha seat during the first general elections but without any success. Ram Rajya Parishad fielded its candidates during the second and third general elections also but failed to win any seat. Praja Socialist Party was active during the first general elections and contested both, the Vidhan Sabha and the Lok Sabha seats but could not capture any. It met a similar fate during the second general elections. Thereafter it did not contest any election for the Vidhan Sabha. Swatantra Party is of recent origin and participated in the third general elections for Vidhan Sabha and Lok Sabha but without any gain. The hold of the various political parties in the district is reflected by the percentage of votes secured by them during the last four general elections for the Vidhan Sabha which are tabulated below:

Party	1952	1957	1962	1967
CONGRESS				
Percentage of votes secured	43.1	51.4	46.5	41.6
No. of contesting candidates	8	3	8	9
No. of winning candidates	(4)	(8)	(6)	(3)
JAN SANGH				
Percentage of votes secured	2.9	8.8	3.9	8.1
No. of contesting candidates	3	2	3	2
No. of winning candidates	—	—	—	—
SWATANTRA				
Percentage of votes secured	—	—	13.5	33.5
No. of contesting candidates	—	—	5	7

1. Source: Office of the Secretary, Bhartiya Jan Sangh, Nagaur.

1	2	3	4	5
No. of winning candidates	—	—	(1)	(5)
COMMUNIST				
Percentage of votes secured	—	—	—	0.5
No. of contesting candidates	—	—	—	2
No. of winning candidates	—	—	—	—
PRAJA SOCIALIST PARTY				
Percentage of votes secured	—	0.6	—	—
No. of contesting candidates	—	1	—	—
No. of winning candidates	—	—	—	—
OTHER PARTIES				
Percentage of votes secured	42.3	12.6	3.9	—
No. of contesting candidates	12	4	2	—
No. of winning candidates	(4)	—	—	—
INDEPENDENTS				
Percentage of votes secured	11.7	26.6	32.2	16.1
No. of contesting candidates	11	15	17	13
No. of winning candidates	—	—	(1)	(1)

NEWSPAPERS

There are two Hindi weekly newspapers *Manava Sandesh* and *Mazdoor Lalkar*. The former is brought out from Parvatsar in the district. The newspaper was started in May 1948 and it publishes articles and news on political, social and cultural aspects. It has a circulation of about a thousand copies. The latter is brought out from Marwar Mundwa and has a circulation of about a thousand copies. The newspapers which are in common circulation in the district but are published outside, are tabulated below:

Name of the Newspaper	Language	Periodicity
(A) Published in Rajasthan		
1. Navjyoti	Hindi	Daily
2. Navjyoti Herald	English	Daily
3. Rashtradoot	Hindi	Daily
4. Rajasthan Patrika	Hindi	Daily
(B) Published outside Rajasthan		
1. Navbharat Times	Hindi	Daily
2. The Times of India	English	Daily
3. Times Weekly	English	Weekly

1	2	3
4. Dinman	Hindi	Weekly
5. Blitz	Hindi	Weekly
6. Blitz	English	Weekly
7. Patriot	English	Daily
8. The Illustrated Weekly	English	Weekly
9. Dharamyug	Hindi	Weekly
10. Hindustan	Hindi	Daily

Besides the newspapers mentioned above, there are other newspapers/periodicals which are in common circulation in the district but the circulation figures of which are not maintained district-wise and therefore even a rough estimate is not possible. These are Hindi dailies-*Veer Arjun*; English dailies-*Hindustan Times*, *Indian Express*, *Financial Express*, *Economic Times*, *National Herald*; Urdu dailies-*Pratap*, *Al-Jamiat*; Hindi weeklies-*Dharmayug*, *Panchjanya*, *Aryamitra*, *Diwana Tej*; English weeklies-*Organisor*; Hindi fortnightlies-*Madhuri*, *Sarita*, *Indrajal*; English fortnightlies *Caravan*, *Filmfare*, *Femina*; Hindi monthlies-*Kadambani*, *Nandan*, *Parag*, *Sarika*, *Champak*, *Janhavi*, *Shaktiputra*, *Rashtradharm*, *Gyanodya*, *Navaneet*, *Filmiduniya*, *Rangbhumi*, *Mukta*, *Chandamama*, *Sampada*; English monthlies-*Science Today* and *Competition Master*.

VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

There are a very few voluntary organisations in the district which render voluntary social services. Shri Maheshwari Navayuvak Mandal and Agarwal Navyuvak Mandal at Merta¹ confine their activities only to the members of their respective communities in the town on social and ceremonial occasions. Other communities of the town also have similar informal associations which help them on various occasions. Shri Seva Samiti at Kuchaman City purports to advocate and practise the tenets of ethics, truthfulness and *ahimsa*, and renders free services on the occasions of fairs and festivals. It also runs an *ayurvedic aushadhalaya* where free treatment is given to the patients.

The Rajasthan Bohra (Ba) Kisan Sabha² at Ladnun is an organisation which looks after the welfare of the members of the Scheduled Tribes of the district. The workers of the Sabha acquaint the tribesmen about the various facilities accorded by the Government to them. They endeavour to prepare them for a better economic and social life. The organisation is aided by the Rajasthan Government and it runs two hostels for the members of the Scheduled Tribes and Scheduled Castes.

1. Source: Offices of the respective Mandals.

2. Source: Office of the Rajasthan Bohra (Ba) Kisan Sabha, Ladnun.

CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST

Degana

It lies in latitude 26° 50' N and longitude 74° 20' E and is the headquarters of the tahsil as well as of Panchayat Samiti of the same name. It is 42 km. north-east of Merta, the sub-divisional headquarters and 80 km. south-east of Nagaur. It is connected with the district headquarters by rail and road though the route by road is rather circuitous. It is an important junction on the Northern Railways connecting Jodhpur with Delhi and Jaipur. Degana has acquired importance recently due to the discovery of wolframite deposits in the Rewat hill near this place.

The place has a population of 1477 (1961 Census) and an area of 26.87 sq. km. The modern facilities such as post and telegraph, telephone, a rest house, higher secondary school for boys and primary school, hospital and dispensary, a public park, club and two *dharmashalas* are available here. The general mode of conveyance is tonga. Water supply is made through tube-well installed at Kitalsar.

About 11 km. to the south of Degana and approachable by road, is a tank known as Poondlotasar into which Harsor stream discharges its water.

Didwana

Situated in 27° 24' N and 74° 35' E, 96 km. north-east of Nagaur, the town of Didwana is the headquarters of the sub-division, and the tahsil and Panchayat Samiti of the same name. It is connected with the district headquarters by a metalled road and has a railway station on the Jodhpur-Delhi track of the Northern railways.

The town, when it was a part of the Jodhpur State prior to the formation of Rajasthan, was the headquarters of the *hukumat* or the district of the same name. Its population was 9,410 in 1901 and 13,547 in 1961. The town covers an area of 65.81 sq. km. (25.41 sq. miles). It is an ancient place and is said to have been in existence for about two thousand years. Formerly it was named Drudwanak, and was held, first by the Chauhan kings of Shakambhari, then by the Mughal emperors, next by the Jodhpur and Jaipur States jointly and thereafter for a short while, by the nawab of Jhunjhunu (now a separate district of the Rajasthan State) till it was acquired by Maharaja Bakht Singh of Jodhpur during the middle of the eighteenth century.

The old town, surrounded by a strong stone wall in former days but now in a dilapidated condition, has seven entrances, the Nagauri gate, the Delhi gate (almost demolished), Deen Darwaza, Ajmeri gate, Chhapri gate, Fatehpuri Darwaza and Khirki Darwaza (now almost demolished). In old days, when the town was the headquarters of the *hukumat*, these gates were closed at sun-set and opened at dawn. All the vehicular traffic and import and export trade of the town were regulated at these gates and customs duties realised. At present, however, with the expansion of the town outside the old periphery, these gates have outlived their utility and simply personify the remnants of the olden days.

The old mansions of the town are mostly double storeyed and ill-ventilated but those which are coming up now are equipped with modern amenities and have better sanitary conveniences. The narrow lanes in the old bazar, paved with uneven stone-slabs, cumbersome to the vehicular traffic, are being replaced, wherever possible by tarred roads. The common mode of conveyance in the town is still the tonga though a few motor-taxis are also seen plying. The buses ply regularly between this town and Sikar, Nagaur, Sujangarh and Kuchaman.

The town has been electrified and boasts of a municipality, a college, schools for primary, middle and secondary standards, a hospital, a post and telegraph office, a telephone exchange, two banks (New Bank of India and State Bank of Bikaner & Jaipur), a public library, two cinema houses, a club, office of the Circle Officer (Police), rest house of the Public Works Department, hotels and charitable *dharmashalas*. The courts of the Munsif Magistrate, Sub-divisional magistrate, Sub-Divisional Officer and the Tahsildar, separate offices of the Assistant Engineers for Water Works and Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Public Works Department, the Office of the Manager of Salts are located here. The water supply is mostly drawn from the wells and ponds (*talao*) but in some parts of the town it is also supplied through pipe line laid down by the Public Health Department.

Among the buildings of the archaeological importance, the town has four old mosques, namely Jama Masjid, Daud Shahi Masjid, Lahoriyon ki Masjid and Sayyidon ki Masjid, six old temples—Jhalriyon ka Mandir, Nagauriyon ka Mandir, Pada Mata ka Mandir, Kalyanji ka Mandir, Mataji ka Mandir and Shyamji ka Mandir and some humble looking cenotaphs containing inscriptions dating from the ninth century. About a kilometre and half distant is a place known as Guda, where we come across some old fine temples and buildings belonging to the Sadhus of the Niranjani sect. About 10 km. to the south-east of the town is a village, Daulatpura, where a copper-plate dated *Vikrama Samvat* 953 or A. D. 896

bearing an inscription has been discovered. About one and a half kilometres from the town is a place which is a stronghold of the Nath Sect of *B'ratrilhari Sampradaya*. Immediately to the south and southwest of the town is a salt lake. It is likely that the place was an important trade centre for salt, in the past.

Jayal

Jayal lies at a distance of 53 km. east of Nagaur and is located in 27° 13' N and 74° 11' E. The headquarters of the tahsil and Panchayat Samiti of the same name are situated here. The tahsil was created in November 1954 and forms a part of Nagaur sub-division. The place is connected by metalled roads with Nagaur in the west and Didwana in the north-east.

The area of the village is about 7,978 hectares. Its population during the 1961 Census was 4,320. The place has a bank (State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur), post and telegraph office, a secondary school, a primary school, and three dispensaries (one ayurvedic, one allopathic and one veterinary). The offices of the Supervisor Sheep & Wool, Overseer Public Works Department, Overseer Water Works and Inspector Co-operative Societies are located here.

The common mode of conveyance is camel and bullock cart.

Not far from it, at a distance of about 18 km. in the south-east, is the village of Badi Khatu where archaeological excavations bespeak of the antiquity of the place as revealed from an inscription of the 14th century A. D. The village is also hallowed due to the existence of the *dargah* of Sah Samad Diwan.

Kuchaman

Earlier spelt as Kuchawan and also known as Kuchaman City, to distinguish it from Kuchaman Road, the place (27° 09' N and 74° 52' E) was an estate in the erstwhile Jodhpur State and was held by one of the first class nobles of Mertia sect of Rathor Rajputs. It consisted of nineteen complete villages and a one-third share in the twentieth. They were situated in different *hukumats*¹. The annual income of the estate was about Rs. 50,000 and the estate holder (jagirdar) paid a tribute of Rs. 3,416 to the Jodhpur ruler.

The town is connected by both rail and road. The railway station (Northern Railways), which was formerly known as Narayanpura and

1. Six of these villages were in Parvatsar, six in Mertia, three in Didwana and the rest in Marot *hukumat*. *Gazetteer of the Jodhpur State and some Statistical Tables*, Ajmer (1909), p. 214.

now Kuchaman City, is 11 km. from the town and regular buses ply between the two places as also between this place and Sujangarh, Kuchaman Road, Sikar and Parvatsar. This town is under Nawa tahsil and lies to the north-east of Parvatsar, the sub-divisional headquarters at a distance of 28 km.

The town was, in the olden days, noted for the manufacture of muskets, swords and padlocks but their production and trade both have dwindled now. It has a population of 15,458 (1961) and covers an area of 31.00 sq. km. No longer does the city wall, now in a dilapidated state, restrict the population within its fold as new residential houses, commercial markets and government offices, all have now sprung up outside its limits. The town has no protected water supply but now the pipe lines have been laid down.

Kuchaman which is the headquarters of the Panchayat Samiti of the same name is an electrified municipal town and has such modern facilities as post and telegraph, telephone, hospital and dispensaries, public park, public library, cinema house, club, schools of primary, middle and secondary, municipal rest house and several *dharmashalas*. The place is known for dyeing work and is also a *mandi* for *moong*, *bajra* and *gwar*.

The fort of Kuchaman, standing on an eminence, and the fortresses of nearby Mithri and Shyamgarh villages were well known in the past. The town also contains some Jain and Vaishanava temples. A temple, that of Natwar (Krishna) is housed in the fort too.

To the south of the town are two saline depressions, miniatures of Sambhar lake, from which salt is produced.

Ladnun

The headquarters of the tahsil and Panchayat Samiti of the same name, Ladnun lies in latitude 27° 39' N and longitude 74° 24' E, 35 km to the north-west of Didwana (by road). It is the northern most town of the district and is connected by rail on the Jodhpur-Delhi section of the Northern Railways as well as by road. The town has a population of 23,825 (1961) and an area of 61.28 sq. km. and has a municipality. It is connected directly with Kuchaman City, Nagaur and Sujangarh by road and regular buses ply between these places.

Before the formation of Rajasthan, it was under a jagir grant having an annual income of Rs. 20,000 and paying a tribute of Rs. 1,600 to the Jodhpur ruler and was held by one of the second class nobles who belonged to the Jodha sept of the Rathors.

The place has been and still is the home of wealthy merchants who

carry on their trade and business at Calcutta, Bombay and other big cities of the country. It was once famous for the manufacture of gold ornaments but now the profession is almost extinct. The retreading of tyres is a thriving business of the town. A Sheep and Wool centre is located about 6 km. from here at Bakauliya while a spinning and worsted woollen mill is also located at Ladnun.

Ladnun possesses post and telegraph, telephone, a government hospital and child and maternity welfare centre, a family planning centre, a police station, a college, three higher secondary schools for boys (two of which are multipurposes) and secondary school for girls, a veterinary dispensary, an Ayurvedic Aushadhalaya, a homeopathic hospital, a public park, two libraries, a cinema house and a few *dharmashalas*. It also enjoys the benefits of electricity and filtered water supply. Water is also supplied to Jaswantgarh and Sujangarh from here through tube-wells. The offices of the Sheep and Wool Extension Officer, the Junior Engineer of Rajasthan State Electricity Board and the Assistant Engineer Water Works Department are also located here. The general modes of conveyance are *tonga*, *chhakara* and *chhakari*, although a few motor-taxis are also available.

The town has a number of temples. Those well known are: new and old Parasnath Digamber Jain temples, Shantinath Svetamber Jain temple, Charbhuj Mandir and the Hanuman Mandir. At a distance of 4 km. at Pabolar is another well-known temple of lord Hanuman. There exist several mosques in the town. There is also a *dargah* of Umarshah Pir where Urs are held. Among the antiquities of the town may be counted the old Baori near Rahu well and old cenotaphs having architectural workmanship.

Makrana

Situated in 27°03' N and 74°44' E, the municipal town of Makrana is known for its world famous marble quarries and the ancillary industries, employing a large number of traditional craftsmen of Silawat caste of Musalmans who manufacture marble toys, idols and other useful articles like paper-weights, ink-stands and other decorative pieces in marble. The stone obtained from these quarries is of various beautiful shades and fine grains.

The town is the headquarters of the sub-tahsil and the Panchayat Samiti of the same name. It is a railway junction on the Jodhpur-Phulera track of Northern Railways and is situated at a distance of 22 km. (by rail) in the north of Parvatsar, the headquarters of the tahsil. It is connected with Parvatsar by both, rail and road. The town has a population of 17,270 (1961) and covers an area of 33.18 sq. km.

Besides the offices of the post and telegraph department, there are also telephonic facilities. A branch of the State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur and another that of Nagaur Central Co-operative Bank, operate here. It is the headquarters of the office of the Deputy Superintendent of Police. The offices of the Assistant Engineers of Mining Department and that of Rajasthan State Electricity Board are also located here. Other offices in the town are those of Supervisor Sheep and Wool Department and a check post of Commercial Taxes department.

The place has a hospital, an ayurvedic dispensary and five private Unani dispensaries, a Family Planning Centre, a veterinary dispensary, three libraries including a mobile library, two cinema houses, a secondary, school for boys, a middle school for girls and three primary schools. There are a number of Hindu temples and mosques, a few of them quite old. One of the mosques is said to have been built by emperor Shahjahan in A.H. 1041 which has been renovated later on. There are several marble cutting and dressing factories, the place being known for marble mines. Buses ply from here to Parvatsar, Kishangarh, Kuchaman, Didwana, Degana, Ajmer, Molasar and Sikar.

There is a rest house in the town maintained by the Public Works Department. Four *dharmashalas* and a *Musafirkhana* are also available to the passengers for their stay.

Merta

Prior to the formation of Rajasthan, when Merta was a part of the Jodhpur State, it was the headquarters of the district of the same name. It was founded in c. 1488 A.D. by Duda, the fourth son of Rao Jodha and was added to the Rathor kingdom by Rao Maldeo, who built the wall and the fort, both in a dilapidated state now. The fort is known Malkot after its builder Maldeo. Akbar, the Mughal emperor, captured the place against a determined and sanguinary defence, but about twenty years later, restored it to the Jodhpur chief, Raja Udai Singh. Another well known battle was fought near Merta town in 1790 A.D. between the Rathors and the Marathas.

At present, this town is the headquarters of the sub-division, the tahsil and Panchayat Samiti, of the same name. Courts of District and Sessions Judge, Civil Judge and of Munsif Magistrates are also located here. Other offices stationed here are those of Assistant Engineers of Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Public Works Department, Irrigation Department, Executive Engineer Water Works, Assistant Commercial Taxes Officer and Supervisor Sheep and Wool.

The town, which is situated 82 km. to the south of the district headquarters and lies in latitude $26^{\circ} 39' N$ and longitude $74^{\circ} 02' E$, is connected with it both by rail (71 km.) and a gravelled road (80 km.). A branch railway line runs between Merta and Merta Road, the latter place being a railway junction.

In this municipal town, post and telegraph, telephone, protected water supply, electric facility, schools of primary, middle and secondary standards and dispensaries and veterinary hospital are available. Branches of the Central Bank of India, State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur and the Nagaur Central Co-operative Bank also operate in the town. The town has an ice factory and a factory for manufacture of tin cans. It has also two libraries, a public park, a club, a cinema house, a rest house of the Public Works Department and two *dharmashalas*. The town has a population of 13,083 (1961) and the civic administration is run by a municipality. It covers an area of 77.23 sq. km.

The important handicrafts of the town consist of articles made of ivory. In the rural areas of this tahsil, clay toys, handloom cloth, blankets, *kheslas*, wooden articles, *khas khas* fans and purses are also manufactured. *Motili*, (sugar coated *til*) and *peda* (a preparation from *khoya*) are well known sweets of the town.

There are several Hindu and Jain temples in the town. Shri Charbhuj's temple and the Jama Masjid are of historical importance. The former is said to have been constructed in 1458 A.D. (v.s. 1515) by Rao Duda, the founder of the town, who was a great devotee of lord Charbhuj (the four armed deity). It is said that the well-known devotee Mira, born at village Kurki in Merta tahsil, first took inspiration here in this temple to dedicate her life to the *bhakti* (devotion) of Lord Krishna. A fair is held here annually on *Shrawan Sudi 11* and continues for seven days. There is another temple of much later date, also known as Loda Charbhuj temple near this old monument.

There are several mosques in the town. The Jama Masjid is a massive structure, not far from the Charbhuj's temple, and is said to have been constructed by emperor Aurangzeb. It represents the Mughal architecture in its exquisite detail. The stone used in it, is of red colour and the four towers and the tomb, appear to have been built of Makrana marble.

The place has 14 Jain temples of Svetamber Order and one that of Digamber. About 10 km. from the town, at village Jasnagar, there are two temples, that of Lord Mahadeo and another of Parasnath. According to local tradition, the former is said to have been constructed 5,000

years back. It contains an idol of Nilkanth Mahadeo and a fair is held here every year. The latter is a *Swetamber* Jain temple built about 400 years back and contains the idol of Parasnath, made of *panch-dhatu* or five metals. The profuse glass work inside the temple, enhances the beauty of this construction. There is yet another Jain temple of Parasnath at Merta Road which is said to have been constructed in 1147 A.D. (v.s. 1204) and which attracts pilgrims from all over the country. Near this temple, there is another Jain temple, that of Shantinath, built by the *jatis* or the Jain ascetics.

About 22 km. from the town is another well-known temple in the village of Bhanwal and named after it as Bhanwal Mata's temple. This is said to have been constructed about 2000 years back and two statues of Jogmayas (Chawanda Mata and Bhawani Devi) have been installed in it.

The country around the town has been the scene of many a hard fought battles and is covered with stone pillars erected to perpetuate the memory of the martyrs. It was about 3 km. to the east of the town that the Marathas under de Boigne inflicted a crushing defeat on the Rathors in 1790.

The town has a population of 13,083 (1961 Census) and covers an area of 77.23 sq. km. (29.82 sq. miles).

Mundwa (Marwar Mundwa)

Situated in 27° 04' N and 73° 50' E, the place is on the Jodhpur-Bikaner track of the Northern Railways, hardly 18 km. south of the Nagaur town. Before the formation of Rajasthan, when Mundwa was a part of Jodhpur State, it was a commercial mart and was noted for its wooden toys and other fancy articles. It was and still is the home of wealthy Marwari traders who have their business in various parts of India.

Mundwa is the headquarters of the Panchayat Samiti of the same name. It has the benefit of electricity, post and telegraph, telephone, a hospital, an *ayurvedic* dispensary and a veterinary dispensary. There are schools catering upto higher secondary standard. The branches of the Central Bank of India and the State Bank of India operate here. The place is noted for lime stone production. There are three industries of some significance, viz., those of hosiery, plastic articles and manufacture of stationery flaps. It occupies an area of 1.45 sq. km. (1951), and according to the census of 1961, has a population of 6706 as against 5121 in 1901.

Nagaur

Nagaur lies in the latitude 27° 12' N and longitude 73° 44' E, and is

the headquarters of the district, sub-division, tahsil, Zila Parishad and Panchayat Samiti of the same name and is conveniently connected by road and rail with the neighbouring districts. The courts of the District Magistrate and Collector, Additional District Magistrate, Sub-Divisional Officer and Magistrate, Civil Judge, Assistant Collector and Magistrate and the Tahsildar are located here. Other offices are those of the Superintendent of Police, Commercial Taxes Officer, Assistant Engineers of Public Works Department, Water Works and Rajasthan State Electricity Board; Employment Officer, District Supply Officer, Deputy District Development Officer, Assistant Registrar of Co-operatives, Deputy Collector Jagirs, Assistant Excise Officer, Project Officer Industries, District Family Planning Officer, Inspector of Schools, District Sheep and Wool Officer, District Ayurved Officer, Executive Engineers of Rajasthan State Electricity Board, Water Works; District Statistician, Social Welfare Officer, Agriculture Officer, Public Relations Officer, Treasury Officer, Animal Husbandry Officer, Medical and Health Officer etc. The Central Government offices located in the town are those of the Income Tax Officer, Inspector of Central Excise, Commandant of Border Security Force, Inspector of Post Offices etc.

The old town, as distinguished from its extension outside is surrounded by a strong and massive wall (now giving way at several places), quite wide and high. In olden days, the entry to the town was regulated through six gates, three on the southern side, and one each on the north, west and east. The city may boast of multi-storeyed buildings with some architectural beauty, but the lanes are quite narrow which rob them of their grandeur.

The town possesses a municipality, a post and telegraph office, a telephone exchange, P.W.D. dak bungalow, a number of *dharmashalas*, a college, an Industrial Training Institute and primary, middle and higher secondary schools, hospitals and dispensaries, two public parks, a district library, two cinema houses and a club. Branches of the Central Co-operative Bank, Land Mortgage Bank, United Commercial Bank, State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur and the Central Bank of India operate here. The town is electrified and has protected water supply. The usual mode of conveyance is tonga, although a few taxis are also available. There are a few hotels and restaurants too.

The town is a good marketing and trade centre for the adjoining rural populace. The principal manufactures of the place are brassware and hardware. Multani *luhars* (iron-smiths) prepare the hand tools, specially those which are needed by the goldsmiths. Mohammadan families of the town are also known for their expert knowledge of dyeing and printing of

chundaries and *saris*. Some parts used in the sewing machines are also manufactured here.

The town has several temples, but only two, known as Murlidhar temple and the Bansiwalon ka mandir, are reputed ones. There is also an old mosque in ruinous condition, which is said to have been constructed by Shams Khan, the local governor, in the beginning of the fifteenth century. There is another old mosque, known as the Tarkin-ka-dargah.

The old fort, situated in the town, but rising above it, has a double wall. Inside the fort, there are residential palaces, three temples and an old mosque, the latter is said to have been erected by emperor Shahjahan.

On the outskirts of the town, there are cenotaphs built in the memory of Amar Singh Rathor. A village, Tausar, 4 km. from the town, contains the *chhatra* or cenotaphs of Appaji, the Maratha General. A mosque at village Rol Qazian, 19 km. from Nagaur is said to be in possession of some holy relic brought by Qazi Hamiddudin Nagauri from Baghdad in 561 A.H. The place attracts devotees in considerable number during Urs. At Rol Qazian, there is also a Hindu temple, that of Jagan-nath, which seems to be quite old.

According to the Census of 1961, the town has a population of 24,296 as against 13,377 in 1901. The town occupies an area of 31.94 sq.km.

Nawa

The town (27° 01' N and 75° 01' E) is the headquarters of the tahsil of the same name. The nearest railway station is Kuchaman Road, about 1.5 km. to the south falling on the Jodhpur Phulera track of the Northern Railways.

It is known for the production of salt which is of good quality. In old days, another industry, manufacturing quilts (*soozanis*) embroidered with elaborate designs also thrived but it has now dwindled away. The emery stone *chakkies* (stone-mills), manufactured in the town are still in large demand.

The town has a municipality and common amenities like post and telegraph, telephone (Kuchaman Road), electricity, primary and secondary schools for boys and girls, four childrens' parks, water-works, dispensaries and *dharmashalas* are available. Its population in 1901 was 5,640 which fluctuated in the succeeding decades thus : 5,657 (1911), 4,824 (1921), 5,997 (1931), 5,738 (1941), 6,521 (1951) and 8,097 (1961).

Parvatsar

Situated in 26° 53' N and 74° 46' E, the town was, prior to the

formation of Rajasthan, the headquarters of the district Parvatsar in Jodhpur State. At present it is the headquarters of the sub division, Panchayat Samiti and tahsil of the same name. The courts of the Munsif Magistrate, the Sub-divisional Magistrate and the tahsildar are also located here. The place is connected by train, through a branch line from Makrana on the Northern Railways; and is also approachable by a tarred road. It has a municipality, a post and telegraph office, public call office, a P.W.D. rest house (looked after by an overseer), two *dharmashalas*, a secondary and two primary schools, two dispensaries, a public park, public library and a club. The place is electrified and has protected water supply.

The common conveyances used in the town are camel and bullock-cart although a few motor taxis are also available. The place is conveniently connected with Kishangarh (Ajmer district), Ajmer, Kuchaman and Pushkar (Ajmer district) and Makrana by metalled road. With the district headquarters, 167 km. to the north-west, it is connected through a circuitous route via Koliya, Kuchaman City, Didwana and Jayal.

It has an area of 40.61 sq. km. and its population in 1901 was 3,069 which increased to 5,081 in 1961.

An important cattle fair known as Tejaji-ka-mela is held here annually in the month of *Bhadon* (August-September) and attracts a large number of traders from the neighbouring States. The fair lasts for a fortnight and thousands of cattle, of different breeds, change hands. About the origin of the fair, it is said that during the reign of Maharaja Bijai Singh of Marwar, the shrewd *Hakim* of Parvatsar, found that the people of his district, especially the Jats attended in great numbers the fair at Sursara, the shrine of Tejaji, in Kishangarh State, and thereby raised the revenues of that State. He wanted to divert that revenue to Parvatsar and realising that the Jats would throng to Sursara to worship Tejaji's shrine, he concocted a story that Tejaji had visited him in a dream and expressed that in future he should be worshipped at Parvatsar only. A statue of Tejaji was installed here and the Jats were ordered to attend the Parvatsar fair and give up the one at Sursara on pain of punishment in case of disobedience.

About 6 km. to the north-west of the town, is the village of Kinsariya and perched on the top of a steep hill is a temple of Kainasa Mata. The Kinsariya inscription throws light on the early Chauhan dynasties which held their sway over this area. To the north-east of the town, about 3 km. is the battle field of Gingoli, where the Jaipur and Jodhpur forces had once fought a fierce battle.

Riyan

Situated in 26° 32' N and 74° 14' E in the south of Nagaur, Riyan is the headquarters of the Panchayat Samiti of the same name. In the Jodhpur State, it was the headquarters of the estate of the same name and was held by a first class noble of the State, who was head of the Mertia sept of the Rathor Rajputs. It can be approached by road only, 34 km. from Merta, the sub-divisional headquarters and 114 km. from the district headquarters. The place is electrified and has a post and telegraph office, telephone, an allopathic dispensary and an ayurvedic *ausadhalaya*. Schools of primary and secondary standards are also available here.

The place had a population of 5,031 during the 1961 census.

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GLOSSARY

<i>Abadi land</i>	Inhabited land
<i>Ahimsa</i>	Non-violence
<i>Angithi</i>	A pot to keep fire in; Furnace
<i>Arti</i>	Worship by moving a lighted lamp circularly round the object of veneration
<i>Asthi Sanchaya</i>	Collection of last remains of mortal being
<i>Aushadhalaya</i>	Dispensary; Hospital
<i>Bhajan</i>	Devotional songs
<i>Bhat</i>	A tribe whose members are professed genealogists and poets; Bard
<i>Bhopa</i>	Conjurer
<i>Bidi or Biri</i>	Indian cigarette; Tobacco rolled in leaves
<i>Burqa</i>	A cloak; Veil; Mantle
<i>Chaddar</i>	Cloth sheet
<i>Chak</i>	A potter's wheel
<i>Chakki</i>	Stone flour mill
<i>Chamar</i>	Cobbler; shoe maker
<i>Chang</i>	A circular wooden frame of some width having hide mounted on one side of it and used as musical instrument
<i>Charan</i>	A bard
<i>Chari</i>	Green plants used as cattle fodder
<i>Charnamrit</i>	Ambrosia of the feet; the water with which the feet of any god or goddess has been washed
<i>Chhakra</i>	A cart
<i>Chopar or Chaupar</i>	A game played with dice
<i>Chowdhri or Chaudhary</i>	A village headman
<i>Chunri</i>	A kind of printed <i>sari</i>
<i>Dai</i>	A mid-wife
<i>Dal</i>	Pulse

<i>Desi</i> or <i>Deshi</i>	Indigenous
<i>Dharmashala</i>	A charitable halting place; an inn
<i>Dholak</i>	Musical drum with skin mounted on both sides
<i>Dhobi</i>	A washerman
<i>Faujdar</i>	An official incharge of militia
<i>Gadia lohar</i>	An itinerant black-smith
<i>Gajar</i>	Carrot
<i>Ganga Mati</i>	Earth of the Ganges
<i>Garudpurana</i>	One of the eighteen <i>Puranas</i> or sacred books on Hindu mythology
<i>Gaushala</i>	Cow house
<i>Ghani</i>	Indigenous oil mill
<i>Ghar</i>	House
<i>Gotra</i>	Sept
<i>Gram Sabha</i>	Village Council
<i>Gur</i>	Raw sugar
<i>Hakim</i>	A physician; also an official incharge of a <i>Hukumat</i>
<i>Hakumat</i> or <i>Hukumat</i>	An administrative division of territory in the erstwhile princely state
<i>Halva</i>	Pudding
<i>Hat</i>	A local market
<i>Hom</i>	A sacrifice; A burnt offering
<i>Iktara</i>	A musical instrument having one string (<i>Ik</i> =one, <i>tara</i> =wire or string)
<i>Inam</i>	A kind of rent-free grant of land
<i>Janapada</i>	Republic
<i>Janazeki Namaz</i>	Prayer at the time of burial of dead body
<i>Jap</i>	Repetition of holy verses or <i>Mantras</i>
<i>Kana Bundi</i>	A method of soil conservation
<i>Kartal</i>	A pair of musical instruments having wooden frame work and metallic discs/worn on fingers [and thumb which make sound when struck against each other

<i>Katha Varta</i>	A session of discourse on religious text
<i>Khadin</i>	A natural or artificially built depression in which rain water accumulates
<i>Khalsa</i>	Land managed directly by State; Crown land
<i>Khamp</i>	Off-shoots of a clan or dynasty
<i>Khandsari</i>	Unrefined sugar
<i>Khaskhas</i>	Poppy seed
<i>Khesla</i>	A thick cotton sheet
<i>Kikar</i>	<i>Acacia</i> tree
<i>Kiledar</i>	An official incharge of a fort
<i>Kirtan</i>	Recitation of religious or devotional songs; Also a session of <i>Kirtan</i>
<i>Kurti</i>	A blouse
<i>Lapsi</i>	A sweet preparation made from granulated wheat fried in ghee and boiled to which <i>gur</i> or sugar is added
<i>Lohar</i>	Blacksmith
<i>Mahal</i>	A palace
<i>Mahila Mandal</i>	Ladies' group or Association
<i>Majira</i>	A cup shaped brass musical instrument
<i>Majlis</i>	A ceremonial gathering or religious congregation
<i>Malpua</i>	A sweet prepared from the wheat flour mixed with water and <i>gur</i> /sugar, the liquid is then poured on a hot pan containing oil or ghee and then fried
<i>Mandi</i>	A market
<i>Mazahar</i>	A mausoleum
<i>Mehtar</i>	Scavenger
<i>Methi</i>	A leafy vegetable
<i>Moonj Ban</i>	A rough hamper cord
<i>Muafidar</i>	Holding land on <i>muafi</i> tenure
<i>Mukhia</i>	A headman
<i>Musafirkhana</i>	A halting place for passengers
<i>Mutawallis</i>	Trustee

<i>Nala Bundi</i>	A method of soil conservation
<i>Namaj</i>	Prayer among Muslims
<i>Namda</i>	Felt; A kind of woollen blanket
<i>Nau Kankari</i>	A game played with nine small pieces of stone
<i>Nazar</i>	A present or offering from an inferior to a superior
<i>Orhni</i>	A wrap for shoulders and head for females
<i>Pan</i>	Betel leaf
<i>Panch</i>	Member of a village council
<i>Panghat</i>	Platform on the periphery of a well where womenfolk assemble and gossip while drawing water from the well and waiting for their turn
<i>Pardanashin</i>	One observing purdah
<i>Patashies or Patashas</i>	Small sugar balls
<i>Peda</i>	A sweet preparation of <i>Khoya</i> or concentrated milk
<i>Piao</i> also <i>Pyao</i>	Water hut
<i>Reza</i>	Unbleached rough cloth
<i>Sadhu</i>	A holy man among Hindus
<i>Sanad</i>	A grant or charter
<i>Samvat</i>	Hindu calendar
<i>Sarai</i>	An inn
<i>Sarangi</i>	A stringed musical instrument
<i>Sarkar</i>	An administrative Division during Mughal empire in India
<i>Sharbat</i>	Syrup
<i>Shivir</i>	Camp
<i>Shradh</i>	A propitiatory performance for the dead
<i>Solah Kankri</i>	A game played with sixteen small pieces of stone
<i>Surya Puja</i>	Sun worship
<i>Tabla</i>	A musical instrument
<i>Taccavi</i>	An advance of money given by the State to cultivators for agricultural purposes

<i>Tantra</i>	A religious treatise containing mystical formulae for the attainment of supernatural powers
<i>Tat Patti</i>	Sack cloth in the form of stripes
<i>Thakur</i>	A feudatory chief
<i>Thela</i>	A cart
<i>Tilak</i>	A mark applied on the forehead
<i>Tirtha</i>	A holy place for Hindus; A place for pilgrimage
<i>Turri Kalangi</i>	A plume tucked on the headgear
<i>Vaidya</i>	A physician

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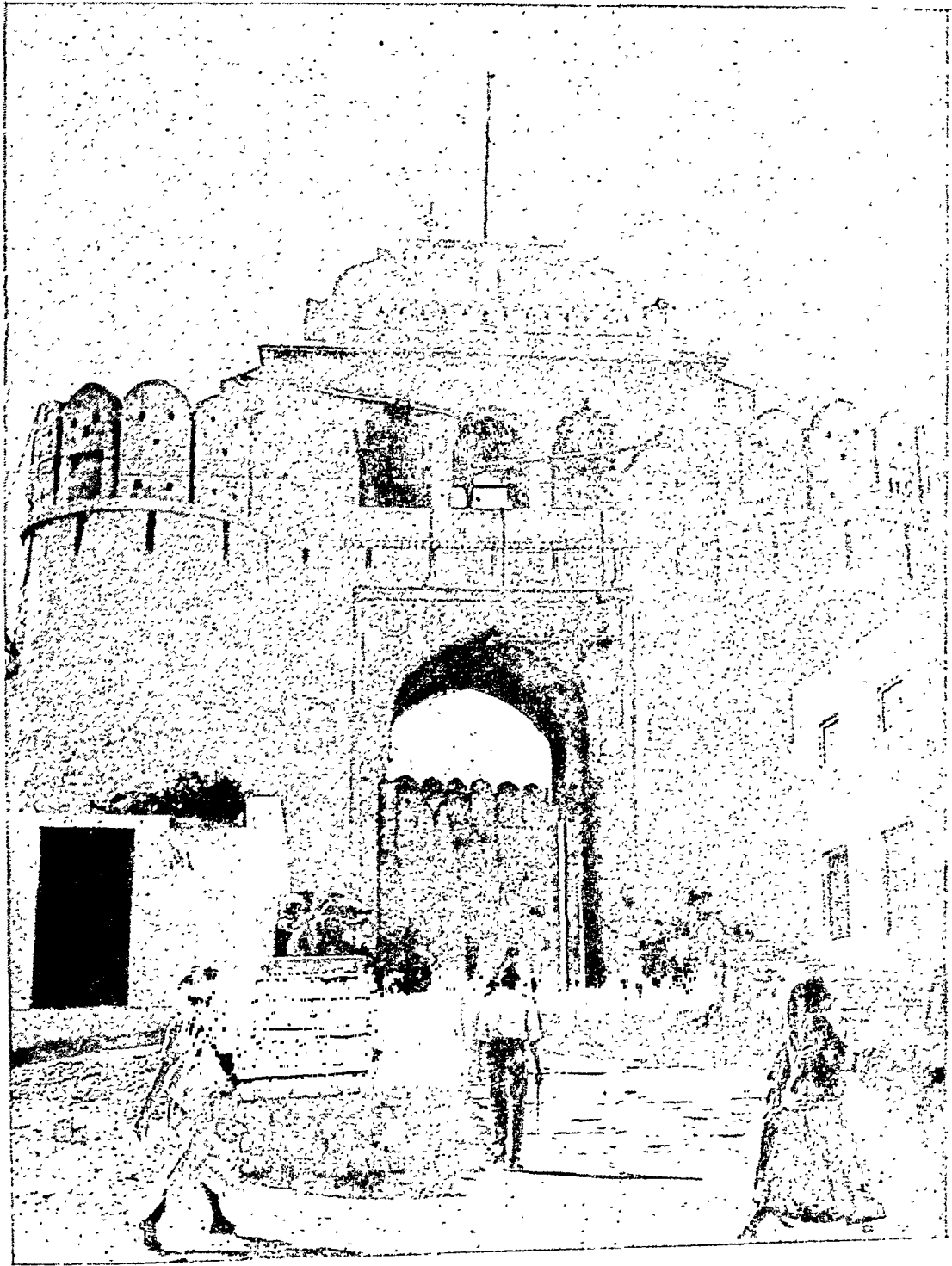
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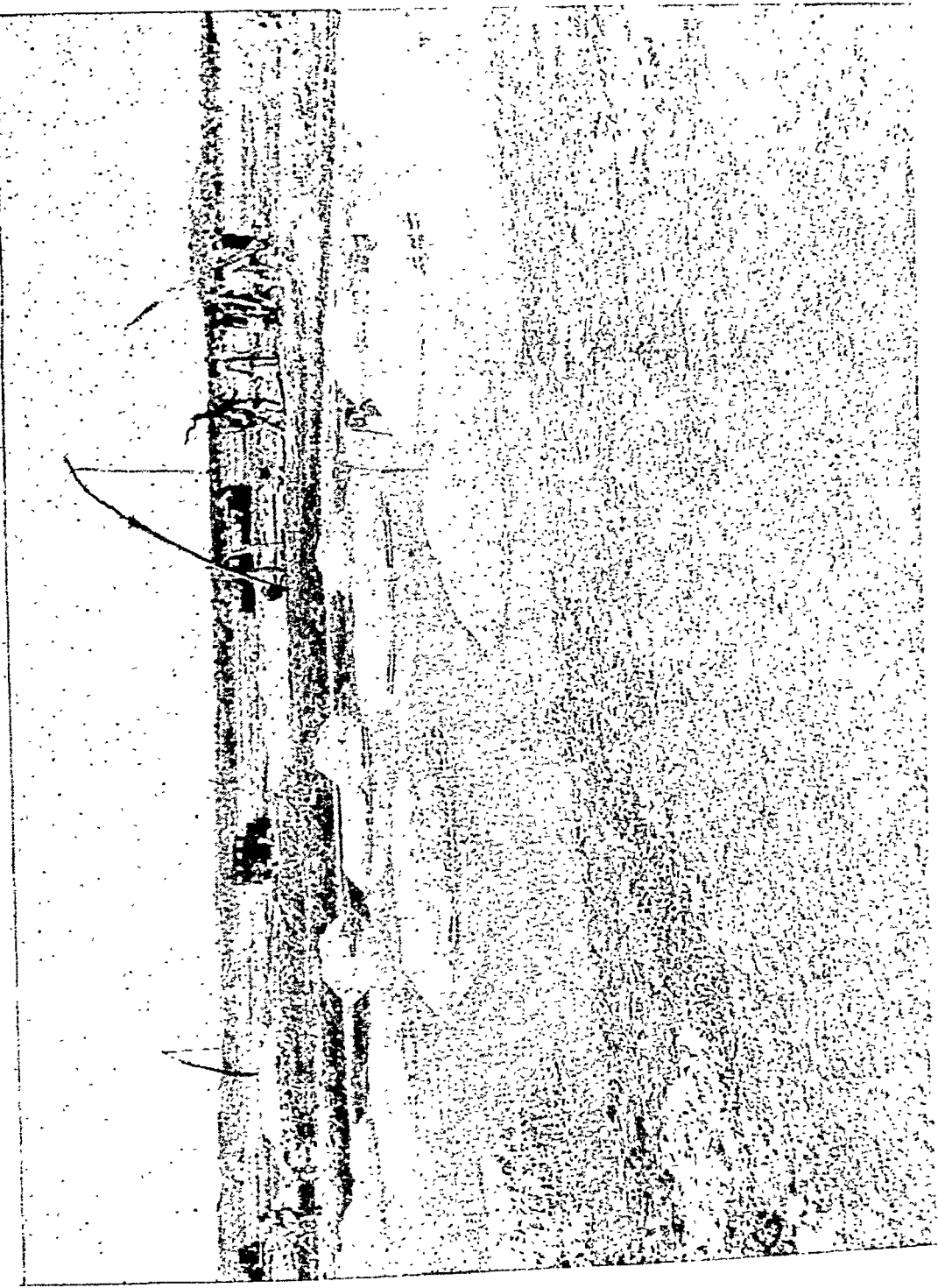
Main gate of Nagaur fort



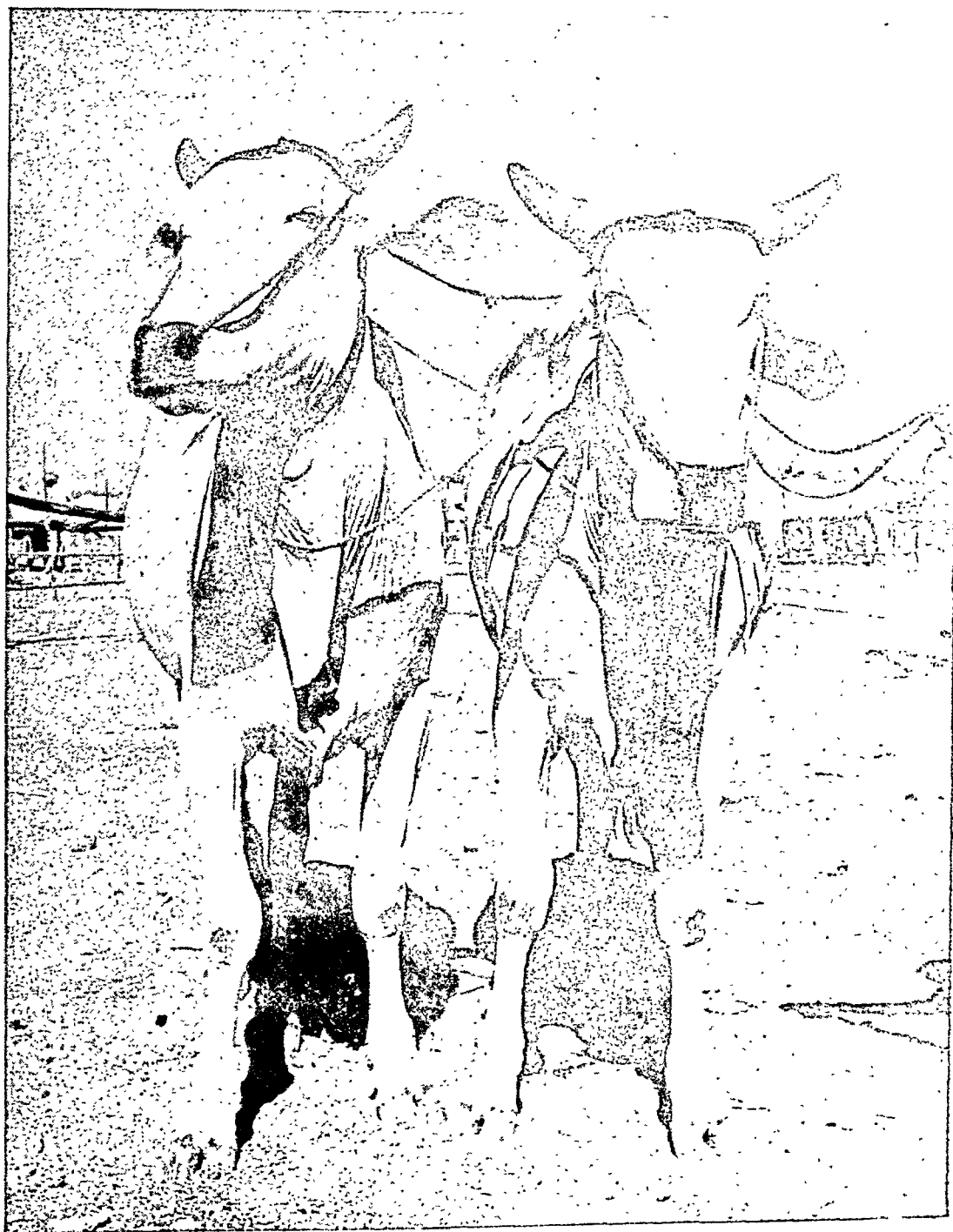
Man folk of the district



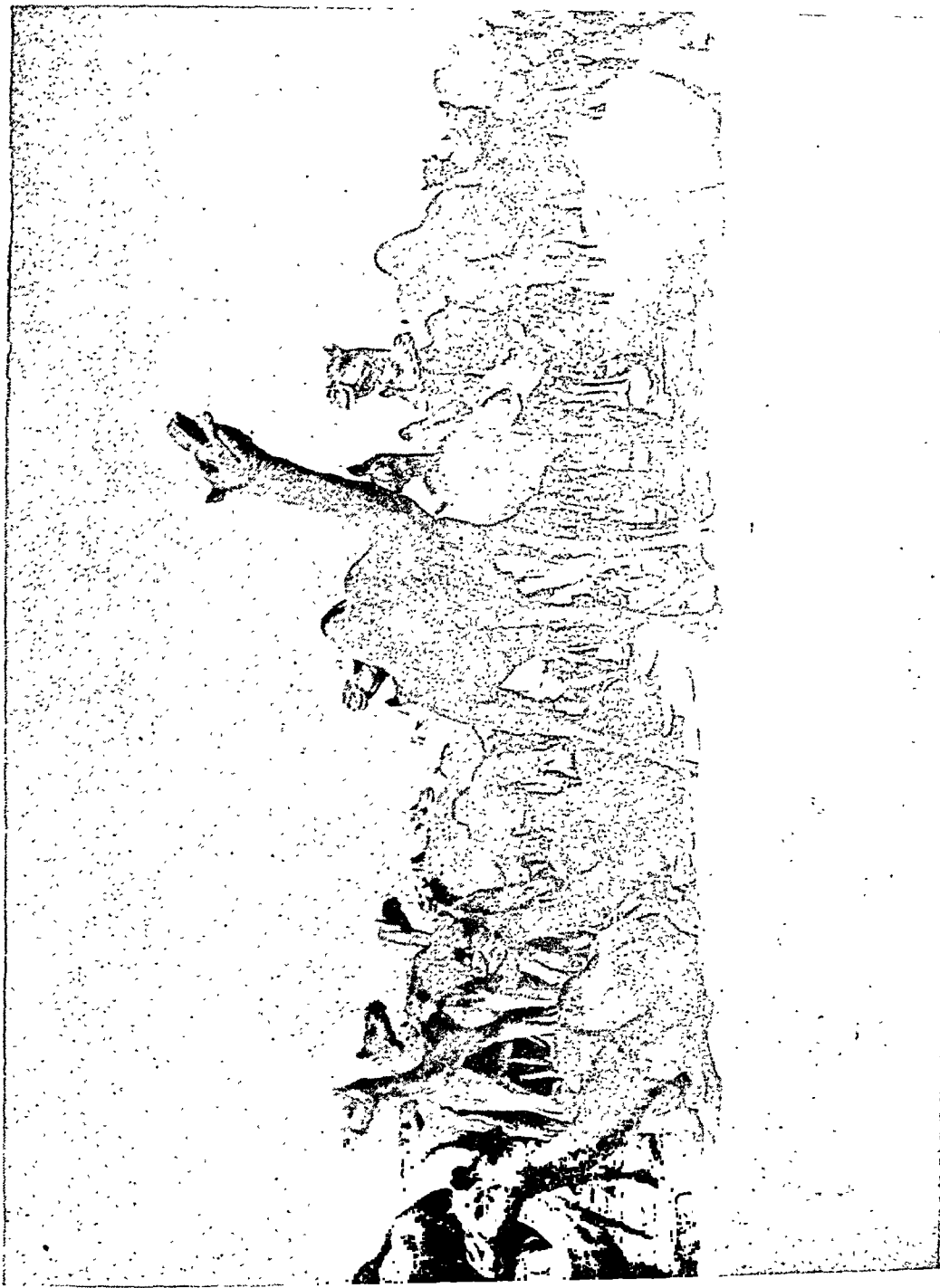
Women folk of the district



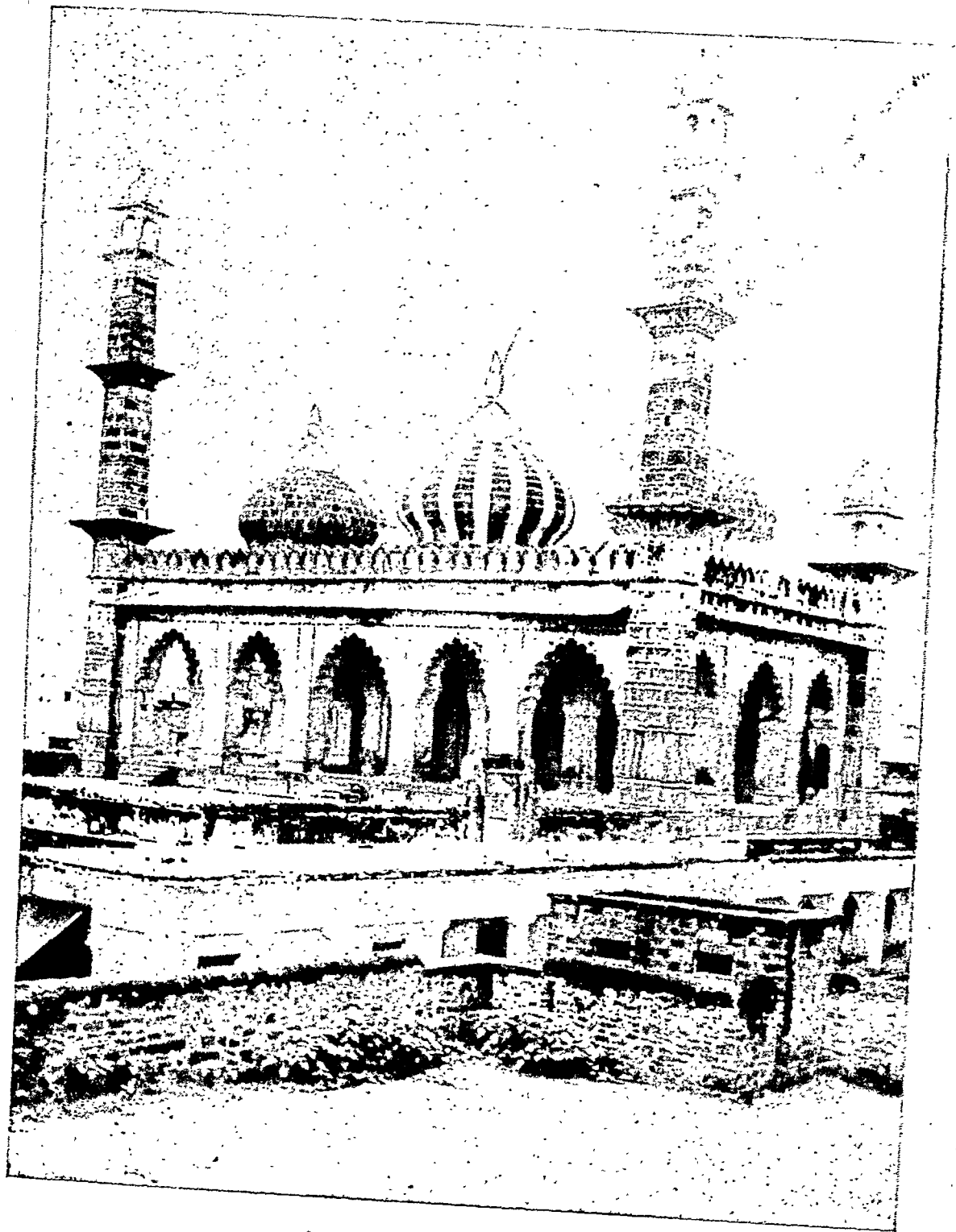
Salt Works, Didwana



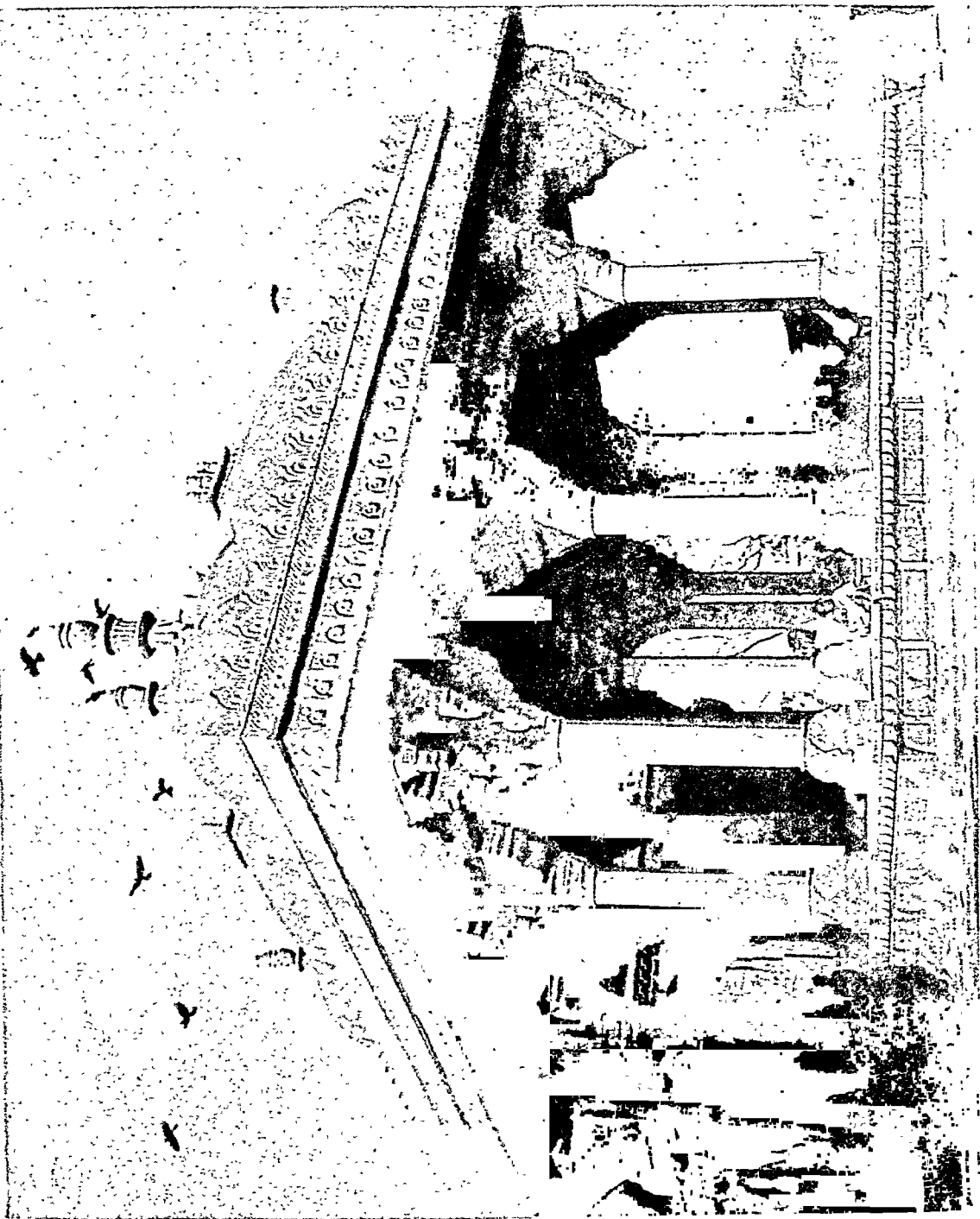
Nagauri Bulls



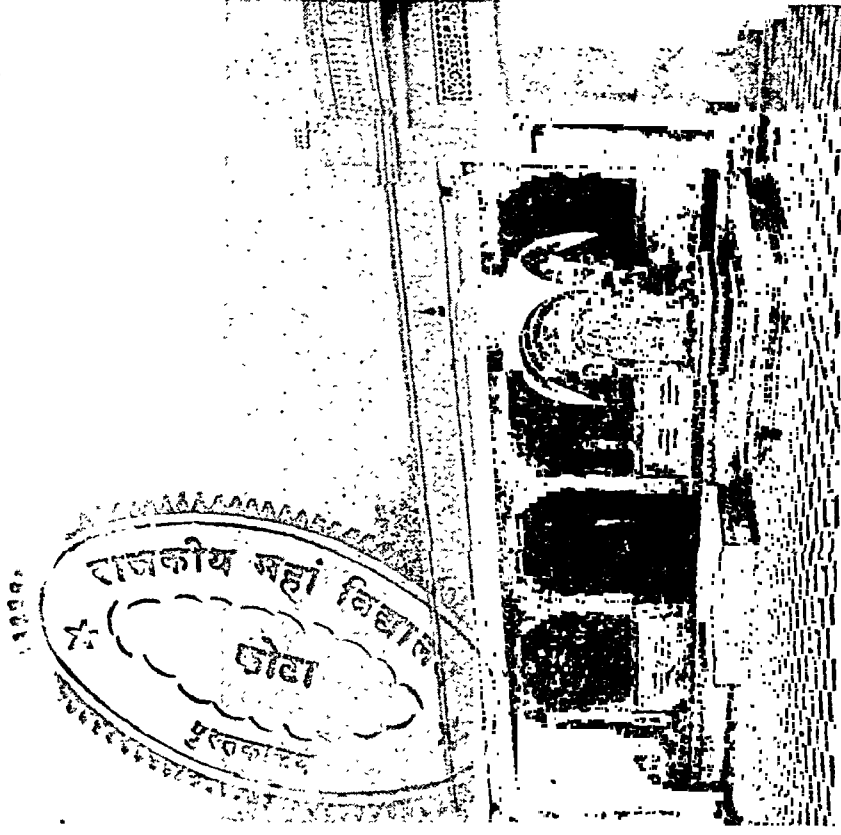
Camels at Tejaji's Fair, Parvatsar



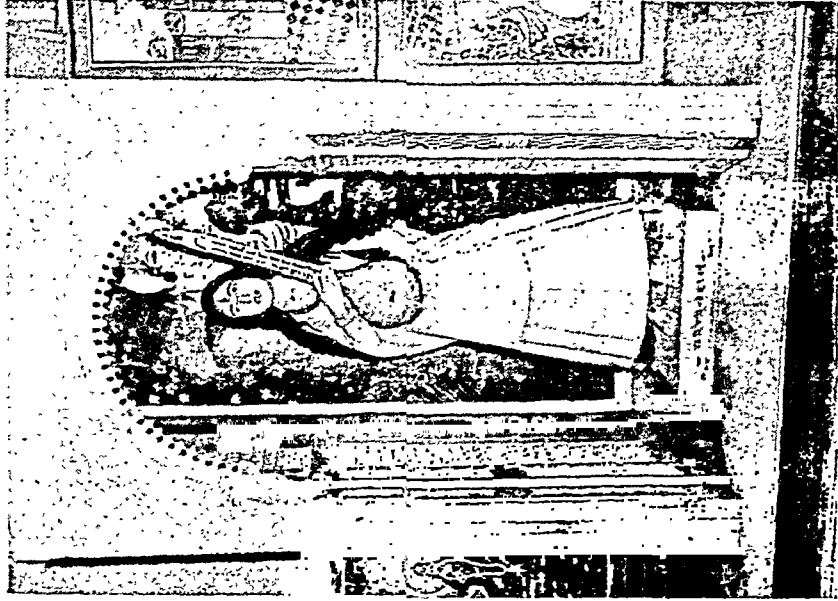
Jama Masjid, Merta City



Chhatra of Amar Singh Rathor, Nagaur



Temple of Charbhuja, Merta City



Statue of Mirabai, the poetess